

175th ANNUAL REPORT



Fish Shack on Bradley Wharf



1840

2015

Front Cover Photo:

***Fish Shack on Bradley Wharf* – Photographed by Ellen Royalty
Photo was taken on May 8, 2014 early in the morning.**

Back Cover Photo:

***Piano Player at the Shalin Lui* -- Photographed by Gary Linder
Photo was captured looking through the front door of the
performance center on July 10, 2011.**

ANNUAL REPORT
Of the
Town Officers
For the year ending
December 31, 2015



Photographs provided by:

Ambulance Department, Board of Selectmen, Department of Public Works, Finance Committee, Fire Department, Friends of Scout Hall, Harbor Department, Human Resources Department, Millbrook Meadow Committee, Police Department, Recreation Department, Rights of Way Committee, Rockport Public Library and Town Art Committee

Edited by Debbie Powers

The Country Press Inc.
Lakeville, Massachusetts



WE REMEMBER
Those who passed on in the year 2015

Rev. Edward R. Sims

Marie L. Rowell

Roger H. Martin, Jr.

Lester J. Garlick, Jr.

Arthur W. Bernard

George S. Patey, Jr.

Louis F. Anderson

Alan S. Pool

William H. Parsons, Jr.

Gerald J. Maisch

***We are grateful
for the years of faithful service
to the Town Of Rockport***

TOWN OF ROCKPORT **ELECTED OFFICIALS – 2015**

TERM

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: TOWN OFFICE BUILDING 34 BROADWAY 978-546-6786

2016	ELIZA N. LUCAS	57 HIGH STREET	978-546-2112
2017	ERIN M. BATTISTELLI (Chair)	57 PHILLIPS AVENUE	978-546-2820
2017	PAUL F. MURPHY (Vice Chair)	21R PLEASANT STREET	978-546-7765
2018	SARAH WILKINSON	23 HIGHVIEW ROAD	978-546-9130
2018	WILHELMINA SHEEDY MOORES	76 MAIN STREET	978-546-6555

ASSESSOR OF TAXES: TOWN OFFICE BUILDING 34 BROADWAY 978-546-2011

2016	PAUL P. FUHS (Chair)	16 SMITH ROAD	978-546-2805
2017	GEORGE H. HOBBS	167 GRANITE STREET #4	978-546-6639
2018	TIMOTHY W. GOOD IV	3 HOOPER COURT	978-546-7699

TOWN CLERK: TOWN OFFICE BUILDING 34 BROADWAY 978-546-6894

2016	PATRICIA E. BROWN	3 JERDEN'S LANE	978-546-7816
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PLANNING BOARD: TOWN HALL ANNEX 26 BROADWAY 978-546-5008

2016	HERMAN S. LILJA (Chair)	6 BAYRIDGE LANE	978-546-3638
2016	EDWARD HAND	20 LANDMARK LANE	978-546-3643
2017	HENRY T. BETTS	13 PENZANCE ROAD	978-546-5220
2017	TERENCE P. DUFFY	158 GRANITE STREET	978-546-5008
2018	CAMERON L. SMITH	10 ROWE POINT	978-546-9209

LIBRARY TRUSTEE: ROCKPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY 17 SCHOOL ST. 978-546-6934

2016	ROBERT AUDANO, JR (Chair)	12A MCKAY'S DRIVE	978-546-5230
2017	HOLLIS A. FRITHSEN	19 HODGKINS ROAD	978-546-6934
2018	LANA RAZDAN	14 ATLANTIC AVENUE	978-546-2614

SCHOOL COMMITTEE: RKPT. COMM. EDUC. CTR 26 JERDEN'S LN 978-546-1200

2016	SUSAN BRISSON	27 PARKER STREET	978-546-3544
2017	COLLEEN COOGAN	7 SOUTH STREET COURT	978-546-8988
2017	MARTHA R. MORGAN (Chair)	3 STOCKHOLM AVENUE	978-546-8339
2018	HEATHER JEAN NELSON	13 POOLES LANE	978-546-3314
2018	REBECCA MEAD SLY	3 MARMION WAY	978-546-1359

ROCKPORT HOUSING AUTHORITY: 13 MILLBROOK PK. 978-546-3181

2016	JOHN M. TWOMBLY, JR.	2 GLENMERE ROAD	978-546-7326
2018	MATTHEW WIGTON	11 SUMMER STREET	978-546-2036
2019	PAULA A. MURPHY	31 MT. PLEASANT STREET	978-546-1465
2020	BETHANY A. BROSAN (Chair)	11 POOLES LANE	978-546-6204
	KATHLEEN HAPSHE -- STATE APPOINTEE	21 CURTIS STREET	978-546-9520
	DAVID HOULDEN --ACTING DIRECTOR (Appt. by RHA)		978-546-3181

TOWN MODERATOR: NO OFFICE

2017	ROBERT VISNICK	40 JERDEN'S LANE	978-546-6635
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Five Year Term for Housing Authority, Three Year Term for all others.

ROCKPORT'S FEDERAL AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES,
U.S. SENATORS, GOVERNOR AND LT. GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR AND LT. GOVERNOR

Governor Charlie Baker

Mass State House, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133
Tel. (617) 725-4005

Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito

Mass State House, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133
Tel. (617) 725-4005

U.S. SENATORS

Elizabeth Warren (D)

317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Telephone (202) 224-4543

Edward Markey (D)

218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Telephone (202) 224-2742

2400 J.F.K. Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
Telephone (617) 565-3170

975 J.F.K. Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
Telephone (617) 565-8519

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

Sixth Congressional District

Seth Moulton (D)

Office Address:
21 Front Street
Salem, MA 01970
Telephone (978) 531-1669

Washington Address:
1408 Longworth House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515
Telephone (202) 225-8020

STATE SENATOR

Bruce E. Tarr (R)

Office Address:
Massachusetts State House, Room 308
Boston, MA 02133
Telephone (617) 722-1600
Bruce.Tarr@masenate.gov

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Ann-Margaret Ferrante (D)

Office Address:
Massachusetts State House, Room 36
Boston, MA 02133
Telephone (617) 722-2370
Ann-Margaret.Ferrante@mahouse.gov

KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police 911 (978-546-1212 for regular business)

Fire 911 (978-546-6750 for regular business)

Ambulance 911 (978-546-6648 for billing information)

<i>Department</i>	<i>Telephone Number</i>
Board of Assessors	978-546-2011
Board of Health	978-546-3701
Board of Selectmen	978-546-6786
Inspectional Services	978-546-9218
Conservation Commission	978-546-5005
Council on Aging	978-546-2573
Department of Public Works	978-546-3525
Dog Officer	978-546-9488
Elementary School	978-546-1220
Forest Fire	978-546-3556
Harbormaster	978-546-9589
High School	978-546-1234
Human Resource	978-546-5000 x40255
Info. Systems & Technologies	978-309-8838
Library	978-546-6934
Middle School	978-546-1250
Parking Clerk	978-546-6547
Planning Board	978-546-5008
Recreation	978-546-7402
Superintendent of Schools	978-546-1200
Town Accountant	978-546-3691
Town Administrator	978-546-5183
Town Clerk/Voter Registration	978-546-6894
Treasurer/Collector	978-546-6648
District Veterans' Agent	978-281-9740

ROCKPORT ALMANAC

Incorporated:	1840
Size:	7.08 square miles
Shore line:	4.8 miles
Population:	7,029
Registered Voters:	5,522
Government:	Board of Selectmen (meets every other Tuesday) Annual Town Meeting (1 st Saturday in April) Fall Town Meeting (2 nd Monday in September) Annual Election (5 th Tuesday after 1 st Saturday in April)
Voter Registration:	Town Clerk's office during normal Town Hall hours. Special weekend and evening sessions before each election.
Meeting Notices:	All Town board and committee meeting notices are posted on the Town Hall bulletin board, town website, and published in the Gloucester Daily Times.
Tax Rate:	2015 - \$11.00 per thousand of assessed evaluation 2016 - \$11.25 per thousand of assessed evaluation
Taxes Due:	May and November
Town Hall Hours:	Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Friday: 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Library Hours:	Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Tuesday: 1:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. Saturday: 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 1:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Transfer Station Hours:	Monday: Closed Tuesday: 7:00 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Wednesday: 7:00 a.m.- 2:45 p.m. Thursday: Closed Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Saturday: 7:00 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Back Row Standing: Eileen Hines - Meeting Support Clerk, Linda Sanders - Town Administrator, Mitchell Vieira - Assistant Town Administrator, and Debbie Powers - Office Manager
Front Row Seated: Wilhelmina Sheedy Moores, Paul F. Murphy - Vice Chair, Erin M. Battistelli - Chair, Sarah J. Wilkinson, and Eliza N. Lucas

Maybe the operative word to describe 2015 is SNOW! During the hot days of August, we were still talking about the snowfall in February, which by the way was also the coldest month on record. Our DPW personnel were taxed to the limit and they performed an incredible service keeping us safe and mobile under difficult conditions. As I am writing this report in early January, my fingers are crossed.

The Selectmen's office continues its busy workload and is run efficiently by our small staff. Our Town Administrator, Linda Sanders, oversees the daily operations with Assistant Town Administrator, Mitch Vieira; Office Manager Debbie Powers, and Interdepartmental Administrative Assistant, Marianne Peters. Recognizing a need for a Human Resources function, the Board added this task to the Assistant Town Administrator position. Thank you, Mitch, for taking on this task.



*Selectperson Eliza Lucas and
Asst. Town Administrator Mitch Vieira*

Highlights for this year include the following:

- The Town welcomed new Police Chief John Horvath after the retirement of long time Chief Tom McCarthy. A huge thank you to the screening committee which comprised of town staff, town committee members, and citizen volunteers who reviewed dozens of applications and recommended three qualified candidates to the Board. Chief Horvath hit the ground running in May and we look forward to working with him into the future.
- The Board also worked with our state officials on a number of issues. Mostly notably was convincing the MBTA to relocate the train track that impeded access to Evans Field for as long as people can remember and meeting with officials from the Department of Conservation and Recreation about the rehabilitation of the visitor center at Halibut State Park. The rehab is slated for this summer and will be completed by next fall.
- The face of Rockport changed just a little; well, at least our online face. Thanks to the Information Systems and Technologies Department for stepping up and creating our new website. With so many of our residents utilizing online services daily, it was great to direct them to a much more user-friendly website.

From the numerous appointments to boards and committees, it remains evident that our town could not run without the dedication of volunteers who donate hundreds of hours of their own time.

We always welcome citizens to become involved and contact any one of us to learn more about the opportunities to do so. The Board meets every other Tuesday at 7:00 pm in Conference Room A in Town Hall. You may contact us via email at selectmen@rockportma.gov.

Best Regards,

Erin Battistelli
Chairperson

BOARD of SELECTMEN
LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

A. Finance and Administration

- ** Finance Committee:** Erin Battistelli
- Assessors:** Erin Battistelli
- Town Accountant:** Erin Battistelli
- Treasurer/Collector:** Erin Battistelli
- Information Systems & Technologies:** Erin Battistelli

- ** Schools:** Paul Murphy

- * Moderator:** BoS Chair
- * Legal:** BoS Chair
- * Town Government & Bylaw Committee:** BoS Chair
- * Town Clerk, Elections & Registration:** BoS Chair

B. Public Safety

- Police:** Paul Murphy
- Fire:** Paul Murphy
- Ambulance:** Paul Murphy
- Forest Fire:** Paul Murphy
- Building Inspector:** Paul Murphy
- Dog Officer(s):** Paul Murphy
- Animal Inspector:** Paul Murphy
- Harbormasters/Shellfish:** Paul Murphy
- Parking Clerk:** Paul Murphy
- * Emergency Management:** BoS Chair

C. Land, Buildings & Natural Resources

- Conservation Commission:** Mina Sheedy
- ** Planning Board:** Mina Sheedy
- Zoning Board of Appeals:** Mina Sheedy
- Zoning Enforcement Officer:** (See Building Inspector)
- ** Department of Public Works:** Erin Battistelli
- Rights of Way Committee:** Mina Sheedy
- Economic Development Committee:** Mina Sheedy

D. Human Services, Culture & Recreation

Council on Aging: Eliza Lucas

Veterans' Services: Eliza Lucas

Millbrook Meadow Committee: Eliza Lucas

Board of Health: Eliza Lucas

Historic District/Historical Commission: Eliza Lucas

Beautification Committee: Eliza Lucas

Rockport Housing Partnership: Eliza Lucas

Old Firehouse Trust: Eliza Lucas

Community Preservation Committee: Eliza Lucas

Cultural District: Eliza Lucas

**** Two delegates needed for regular meetings of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee from Labor Day on to prepare for Spring Town Meeting.**

1. Erin Battistelli

2. Mina Sheedy

* BoS Chairperson will cover

**** Assignments with significant meeting/coordination time needed. Each Selectperson will need to assume on the ** assignments and in some cases two ** assignments.**

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
LICENSES/PERMITS GRANTED
2015

<i>LICENSE/PERMIT TYPE</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>
Antique Dealers	2
Cinema	1
Common Victuallers	37
Entertainment	9
Filming	5
Fortune Teller	0
Hawkers & Peddlers	10
Home Occupation	2
Home Occupation – Guest House	2
Innholders	15
Junk Dealers	1
Laundromats	1
Livery	0
Lodging House	11
Outdoor Display	19
Parking Lots	5
Street Performers	18
Taxicab	14
Transient Vendors	6
Used Car Dealers, Class II	2

ALCOHOL LICENSES 2015

Annual Alcohol	5
Seasonal Alcohol	5
One-Day Alcohol	4
Sale of Wine at Farmer's Market	1

TOTAL LICENSES ISSUED 175

2015 APPOINTMENTS

(By Board of Selectmen unless noted)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Linda Sanders

ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Mitchell R. Vieira

TOWN ATTORNEY
Darren R. Klein
Kopelman & Paige, P.C.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT
Jennifer Yarid

TREASURER/COLLECTOR
Carrie Arnaud

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Mitchell R. Vieira

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
(Appointed by DPW Commissioners)
Joseph Parisi

TRUSTEE OF LEANDER M. HASKINS
PROPERTY AND FUNDS
Erin M. Battistelli
Paul F. Murphy
Sarah J. Wilkinson
Wilhelmina Sheedy Moores
Eliza N. Lucas

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
Kevin St. Peter

ASSISTANT DOG CONTROL OFFICER
Vacant

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER
Linda Sanders

COMMUNITY OIL SPILL RESPONSE
COORDINATOR
Larry Wonson

CUSTODIAN OF TAX TITLE PROPERTY
Linda Sanders

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
Mark Schmink, Director
Daniel Mahoney – Asst. Dir.

FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER
James W. Doyle

FOREST FIRE WARDEN
Michael Frontiero

CO-HARBORMASTERS AND KEEPERS
OF THE FLOATS
Rosemary Lesch
Scott W. Story

ASSISTANT HARBORMASTER AND
KEEPER OF THE FLOATS
(3 yr. term)
2015 Story R. Reed
2016 Ron Petoff

SHELLFISH CONSTABLE
(3 yr. term)
2016 Scott W. Story

DEPUTY SHELLFISH CONSTABLES (3
yr. term)
2016 Rosemary Lesch
2016 Ron Petoff

ASSISTANT KEEPERS OF THE FLOATS
Chief of Police, Lieutenant,
Sergeants & Police Officers

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS, ZONING
AGENT, FENCE VIEWER, AND SIGN
VIEWER
(3 yr. term)
2017 Paul M. Orlando

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR
(Appointed by Inspector of Buildings)
George C. King

ASSISTANT WIRING INSPECTOR
(Appointed by Inspector of Buildings)
Kirk Keating

PLUMBING & GAS INSPECTOR
(Appointed by Inspector of Buildings)
Joseph P. Guzzo

TREE WARDEN *(appointed by Director)*
Charles J. Osmond

CAPE ANN VETERANS' SERVICES
(Glou., Rockport & Manc. By The Sea)
Adam Curcuru – District Director

WORKERS COMPENSATION AGENT
Melissa Cox, Payroll & Benefits
Specialist

KEEPER OF THE LOCKUP
Chief John Horvath

CONSTABLES
John Horvath, Chief
Mark Schmink, Lt.
Robert Tibert, Sgt.
Timothy Frithsen, Sgt.
Michael Marino, Sgt.
Mark Rowe
James Hurst, Jr.
Philip Wesley
William Budrow
Gregory George
Colleen Daniels
Daniel Mahoney
Michael Anderson
Jason Balzarini
Adam Ludovicz

PERMANENT INTERMITTENT POLICE
OFFICERS

Mary Edgerton
Corbin Keating
Michael Foote
Keith Militello

PARKING CLERK

Kurt Bradley
NORTH SHORE REGIONAL
VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
(Appointed by Moderator)
Rockport Representative
Bruce Perkins

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON TOWN
WATER SUPPLY

(Appointed by Moderator)

Laura Evans
Diane Cartwright
Janet Breiter

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Stephanie Woolf, Chair
Terry Duffy
Martha M. Finta
Betsy Giannocco
Amnon Goldman
Heidi Goodwin
Christine Grenier
Mary Zivkovic
Mary Minz
Nina Samoiloff
Phineas Kelly
Christine Lovgren
Jill Marshall
Pat McGehee
Peggy Coonley

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

Fire Chief James Doyle
Asst. Chief Kirk S. Keating
Asst. Chief John Porter

BOARD OF HEALTH (3 yr. term)

2016 Dr. Sydney M. Wedmore,
Chair
2017 Dr. Russell Sandfield
2018 Dr. Sydney Jimenez
2019 Dr. Bruce Cohen

BUILDING STUDY COMMITTEE

John P. Campbell, Chair
Russell C. Anderson
Randy Saville

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING
COMMITTEE

Board of Selectmen:
Wilhelmina Sheedy Moores
Erin Battistelli, Chair
Finance Committee:
June Michaels
William Wagner

Town Administrator

Linda Sanders
Treasurer/Collector
Carrie Arnaud
Town Accountant
Vacant

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION
COMMITTEE

* Julie McMahon
* Melvyn Michaels
* Ruth George
* Phil Crotty
Bethany Brosnan
Patricia Edgerton
Mary Ann Lash
Stephen DeMarco
James Gardner
Philip Crotty
(* Appointed By Moderator)

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (3
yr. term)

2016 Robert Claypool
2017 Lawrence Neal, Chair
2017 Alan MacMillan, Jr.
2017 Mary Ann Lash
2018 David McKinnon

CONSERVATION AGENT

(Appointed by Conservation Commission)
Geraldyn Falco

COUNCIL ON AGING (3 yr. term)

2016 Roger Lesch
2016 Suzanne Blake
2016 Maureen Beeley
2016 Christine Marek
2017 Joanne Wood
2017 Gilbert McCarthy
2017 Donald E. Sudbay, Jr.
2017 Shirley Conway
2018 Faye Anderson, Chair
2018 Colleen McGrath

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

(3 yr. term)

2016 Paul D. Sena, Chair
2017 James K. Gardner
2018 Bruce Reed

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

Lana Razdan, Chair
James M. Cox
Peter W. Beacham
Rollyn Hoffman
Robert Liebow
Theresa Scatterday
Suzan Galpin

FINANCE COMMITTEE

(3 yr. term)

2016 Michael Hughes
2016 Walter R. Hess
2017 William Wagner
2017 Elizabeth Dailey
2017 Melissa Tingley
2017 Ian Crown
2018 June Michaels
2018 Laurene Wessel, Chair
2018 Roger Levine

GRANITE PIER COMMITTEE

Charles Nichols, Chair
John W. Thompson
Eric Rask
Frank Levesque
Michael Tupper

HARBOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(3 yr. term)

2016 Philip Crotty
2016 Stephen Fritch
2016 Dana Jorgenson
2017 Chris Murch
2017 Fred Hillier
2017 Lawrence Stepenuck
2018 Edmund Montello, Chair

HISTORICAL/HISTORIC DISTRICT
COMMISSION

(3 yr. term)

2016 Stephen DeMarco,
Chair
2016 Paul Woodbury
2017 James Theophanis
2017 Russell Liddle
2018 Lynn Finnegan
2018 Thomas Stockton
2018 Joanne Wile, Alternate

INSURANCE COMMITTEE (3 yr. term)

2016 Russell E. Dailey
2017 Ronald Gravel
Town Accountant, ex officio
Treasurer/Collector, ex officio

MBTA STATION PLANNING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nicola A. Barletta, Chair
Henry T. Betts
George Robertson
Samuel Coulbourn
Ellen Canavan

MEDICAL INSURANCE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (Chapter 32-B, Section 3)

AFSCME, General
Scott Wonson
AFSCME Supervisor
Ronald Hale
Teachers
Robin Crocker,
Non-Union Personnel
Diane Lashua
Educ. Support Staff
Allison Rudolph
Patrolmen
Colleen Daniels
Superior Officers
Tim Frithsen
Retired Employees
Sheila Irvin

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
COMMITTEE

Claire Franklin, Chair
June Sullivan
Gail Zeman
Brian Sullivan
Darlene Trumbour
Kendra Dagle

MILLBROOK MEADOW COMMITTEE

Samuel W. Coulbourn, Chair
Marcia Lombardo
Shannon Mason
Charmaine Blachard
Frederick Tarr III
Barbara Sparks
Aileen Morrissey
Stephanie Woolf
Laura Hallowell

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION
COMMITTEE

Peter H. Van Demark
Lawrence Neal, Chair
Frederick H. Tarr
Stephanie Cunningham

PERSONNEL BOARD (3 yr. term)

2016 Susan Crown
2017 David. W. Kearns, Chair
2017 James B. King
2018 Elwin Richter

RIGHTS-OF-WAY COMMITTEE
(3 yr. term)

2016 Jill Soloman
2016 Tom Kerans, Chair
2017 Mary Devaney
2017 Philip Morrow
2018 Lori Morrow
2018 Tom Mikas

ROCKPORT CULTURAL COUNCIL
(3 yr. term)

2016 Janice M. Beacham
2016 Marie E. Alfieri
2016 Shirley Christenson
2018 Linda Teahen
2018 Jacquelyn Ball
2018 Julie Andrews

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER ASSIGNED
TO ELDER AFFAIRS

Roger Lesch

THACHER & STRAITSMOUTH
ISLANDS TOWN COMMITTEE

Dr. Sydney Wedmore, Chair
Seth Cutter

THACHER & STRAITSMOUTH
ISLANDS TOWN COMMITTEE (cont'd)

Richard W. Morris
Carol Delaney
Thomas Eldridge
Lee Marr
William Cardani
David Delaney
Ted Tarr III
Gail Zeman
Paula Eldridge
Raymond Ross

TOWN ART COMMITTEE

Karen Sena-Berger
Bryan McMullin
Rosemary Pillarella
Dorothy Marshall

TOWN GOVERNMENT AND BYLAW
COMMITTEE (3 yr. term)

2017 Robert Sonia
4 vacancies

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
(5 yr. term)

2016 Alan Battistelli, Chair
2017 Charles W. Christopher
2017 Tacy D. San Antonio
2019 John Rees
2020 Peter Bergholtz

ZONING BOARD ASSOCIATES

Lars-Erik Wiberg
Debra Dellacona
Frederick Frithsen
Michael Bace

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS

Charles Christopher
John Rees

REPRESENTATIVES TO REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

ACTION, INC.

Roger Lesch

CAPE ANN TRANSPORTATION

AUTHORITY (CATA)

REPRESENTATIVE

Mitchell Vieira

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REPRESENTATIVE

Erin Battistelli

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING

COUNCIL (MAPC) REPRESENTATIVE

Vacant

MAPC REPRESENTATIVE TO THE

NORTH SHORE TASK FORCE

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM

(TIP) REPRESENTATIVE

Joseph Parisi

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

(3 yr. term)

2017 Jonathan Ring
2017 Linda A. Emerson
2018 Patricia Brown
2019 Ann Patrice Hickey

ELECTION WORKERS, PRECINCT ONE

Marilyn Halmen
Linda Johnson
June Carlson
Susan Kielenen
Laura Ferazzi
June Knight
Christina Doyle
Sue Lee
Lynda Decourcey
Heather Atwood
Mary Jane Morrill
Darlene Spittle
Margaret Justice
Elizabeth Flannagan

ELECTION WORKERS, PRECINCT TWO

Justine Quinn
Helen Barnett
Kurt Bradley
Paula Eldridge
Rosemary Baron
Marcia Peterson
Terri Krause
Lilia Orozco
Christina Christopher
Bonnie Gray
Debra Legg
Charles Christopher
Marie Lopresti
Melanie Waddell
Marcia Audano
Holly Frithsen
Camilla Ayers

ELECTION WORKERS, PRECINCT THREE

Sheila Irvin
Karen Anderson
Barbara Brewer
Mary-Helen MacLeod
Diane Lynn
Andrea Ritchie
Frank Dunton
Barbara Arnold
David Arnold
Janet O'Donnell
Jaclyn Hansbury
Deborah Goldberg-Beaton
Joanne Wood
Jane Hyry
Betsy Giannoccaro
Steven Giannoccaro
Judith Harris
Stephen Rowell
Janice Ramsden
Gunille Caulfield
Cynthia Kielenen
Elana Brink

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

2015 was another productive and rewarding year in the world of Rockport town government. Major accomplishments included the complete change over to SoftRight©, the new financial management software, and the implementation of the new town website at www.rockportma.gov. As expected, there were challenges in the transition to both systems but the major difficulties behind users are making great strides. These technology improvements would not have been accomplished without the help of the Treasurer/Collector stepping up and assuming the role of project manager for the finance system and the Information Systems & Technologies department putting in concentrated time and effort to transition important information from the old website while setting up the new one.

My office continued to provide daily support to departments and committees, including the signing of an inter-municipal agreement with the Mayor of Gloucester, and the Chairman of the Manchester-by-the-Sea Board of Selectmen to establish a regional veterans service office for our veterans to obtain any help and services they need thanks to the dedication of the Assistant Town Administrator. The Parking Clerk has been relocated to the lower level of Town Hall and the Recreation Department has established an office space in the old police station. The Town's petition for Wine and Malt licenses was received back from the state and will be put before the voters as a question on the May 2016 election ballot and we received notice from Senator Tarr's office that he was able to secure \$20,000 in funding to assist the town in exploring the feasibility of the Granite Pier extension to Gull Island.

For much of the year, I worked on filling two critical department head vacancies - the Police Chief and Town Accountant. The Board of Selectmen appointed a Police Chief Screening Committee to review the applications and résumés of 71 applicants. That ad-hoc committee consisted of 9 dedicated citizens and staff, Selectpersons Paul Murphy and Mina Sheedy, School Superintendent Rob Liebow, Personnel Board member Elwin Richter, Armand Aparo, Stephen Sheehan, Bruce Reed, Alan Thompson, and me. We hired BadgeQuest, a public safety consulting firm that helped to qualify applicants and run an intensive assessment center which produced 3 highly qualified applicants. Police Chief John Horvath was hired in May and hit the ground running. For most of the year, the town was without a full-time Town Accountant. We contracted with retired town accountant Roberta Josephson to confirm fund

balances produced by the new software system and help prepare yearend financials. After a long and extensive search, we hired Jennifer Yarid in December who immediately began contributing to the critical financial operations of the town.

The Town received the preliminary draft of the Master Building Plan from DRA Architects. After reviewing the draft report with the DPW Director, Assistant Town Administrator, and Assistant DPW Director, we submitted comments and alterations to the plan and are waiting for the final document to be delivered. We are hopeful the plan will be complete and available in 2016.

I continued to hold management meetings to solidify the collaboration among all departments, boards, and committees as well as using the time to brainstorm solutions to Town-wide issues that affect many departments. Much of the discussion at the meetings was focused on the impending FY2017 budget and how the development for the upcoming year would be different from previous years, with the use of the new financial software's budget module and the challenges of rising costs.

Another area of accomplishment is the certification of expertise of our staff and officials. The Town Clerk became a Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerk by the Town Clerk's Association and the Assistant Town Administrator achieved his Massachusetts Certified Public Purchasing Officer credentials from the Inspector General's Office. They join the Treasurer/Collector who is a Certified Massachusetts Municipal Treasurer and the Principal Assessor who is a Massachusetts Accredited Assessor.

In June, the Selectmen approved my recommendation to appoint Mitchell Vieira as the Director of the newly established Human Resources department, in addition to his position as Assistant Town Administrator. The human resources function had been one of the many responsibilities of the Town Administrator that had been somewhat shortchanged as a result of my lack of time and attention with other areas demanding my immediate attention. The Personnel Board approved of this appointment as well and I, along with the Personnel Board members, am grateful to Mitch for taking on this important role.

During April and May, I worked diligently on acquiring new parking meters after the first set of meters failed to work correctly. We purchased the new solar powered meters through the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's new Parking Meter cooperative purchase program to reduce the bidding and

procurement time while still being fully compliant with the law. In addition to purchasing the parking meter in a very short timeframe from MacKay Meters™, we realized significant savings from the standard retail prices. The Board of Selectmen set an aggressive goal for my office to have the new meters up and running by Memorial Day weekend. We miraculously hit the mark!

Near the end of 2015, the Board of Selectmen established a badly needed Community Development function bring focus on critical areas that have been somewhat neglected due to lack of time such as public transportation, parking, and housing for example and to coordinate and integrate the various efforts of some committees such as the Green Community Task Force, the Economic Development Committee, and the Open Space and Recreation Committee, for instance.

The friendly face that greets you when you arrive in the office is Debbie Powers, our Office Manager. Debbie keeps the office functioning and does it with a smile even on the busiest of days. She handles all licensing, reappointments of committee members, leases, and commitments. She also provides support when needed to various other departments including the Parking Clerk, Town Clerk, and Accounting offices.

I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their ongoing support throughout the year, the many dedicated volunteers that support their community, and the department heads and employees for their commitment to serving the town, providing quality customer service, and for their ongoing efforts in continuous improvement to town government. Finally, I especially want to thank the good Citizens of Rockport for making this town a great place to live and work.

Linda Sanders
Town Administrator

ANNUAL REPORT OF TOWN COUNSEL

We are pleased to present our annual report as Town Counsel to the Town of Rockport. In calendar year 2015, we advised the Board of Selectmen and other Town officials and employees with respect to real estate transactions, easements, conservation land issues, enforcement actions, public and private way rights, permits, breakwater repairs, public records and open meeting law issues, construction contracts, regional and inter-municipal agreements, procurement, licensing, zoning board, planning board, and conservation commission appeals, enforcement proceedings, town meetings, special legislation, ballot questions, contract and collective bargaining negotiations, labor matters, and on various other general municipal matters.

Town Counsel believes one of our highest priorities and goals is to provide proactive legal advice that prevents the Town from engaging in litigation. That being said, Town Counsel is always ready, able, and willing to zealously litigate on behalf of the Town when it becomes necessary. We continue to work diligently to effectively represent the Town in all pending litigation. In 2015, Town Counsel represented the Town and its officers in proceedings before the Massachusetts Appeals Court, Massachusetts Superior Court, Land Court, the Housing Court, the American Arbitration Association, the Appellate Tax Board, the Supervisor of Public Records, the Attorney General, and the Department of Environmental Protection. In addition to effectively litigating on behalf of the Town in these matters, Town Counsel, whenever possible, works to promote conciliatory efforts on behalf of the Town and negotiate cost-effective resolutions to disputes that address the Town's best interests and priorities. In conjunction with the efforts of the Town's administration, this proactive approach has once again assisted in mitigating the Town's litigation costs and the number of pending cases. A list of the pending and resolved cases at the close of 2015 may be obtained through the Board of Selectmen's office.

Town Counsel is also very involved with preparation for the Fall and Spring Annual and Special Town Meetings and attends all such meetings to assist with answering legal questions and drafting proper motions. In 2015, Town Counsel again reviewed and assisted in the drafting of several bylaws and amended bylaws that were presented to Town Meeting for approval. Town Counsel also provided support by drafting proper motions for various Board meetings and by answering various procedural questions. At the request of the Town Administrator or Board of Selectmen, we attended meetings of the Board of Selectmen and other Boards to provide advice on pending litigation and to assess the Town's risk management on legal matters. We also provide periodic updates to the Board of Selectmen at no charge on all pending litigation and non-litigation matters.

This past year, Town Counsel responded to requests for opinions from Town officials on a wide variety of legal matters, including the payment of retroactive wages, performance evaluation procedures, application of civil service laws, inter-municipal agreements, proposed bylaw amendments, employee discipline, and collective bargaining. Town Counsel prides itself on providing Town officials and employees with efficient, effective, and responsive answers to requests for advisory opinions. We consider any request for an opinion as being urgent and requiring a prompt response. Town Counsel also assisted in 2015 in the drafting of numerous policies, contracts, easement documents, bylaw amendments, and cease and desist orders.

The office of Town Counsel has also continued to work with the Town to reduce municipal legal costs by researching many issues of municipal law and issuing Memoranda and Email Blasts addressing those issues at no charge. In 2015, we advised the Town on case law, legislative developments and necessary policy updates through these memoranda and emails on issues and areas of law that included: Changes in Promotional Selection Procedure May Trigger Bargaining Obligations; Installing GPS Technology in Municipal Vehicles May Be a Mandatory Subject of Bargaining; Supreme Judicial Court ("SJC") Invalidates Sex Offender Residency Ordinance; Massachusetts Appeals Court Rejects Contractor Claim for Equitable Adjustment; SJC Rules ANR Lots With Preexisting Structures Not Protected From Zoning; Bargaining with Unions Over Retiree Health Insurance Benefits; Winter Storm Juno - Cancellation or Continuation of Town Meetings; Expanded Gaming Act - Community Mitigation Fund Application Deadline; the Massachusetts Minimum Wage Law. Additionally, training is always offered at no charge by Town Counsel to Town officials and employees on various legal issues and topics of concern through live seminars and electronic webinars. During 2015, Town Counsel provided multiple trainings on Harassment and Employment Discrimination Prevention, which were attended by many Town employees and officials.

In 2015, Town Counsel's objective, as always, is to be a partner in the Town's continued growth, development, and accomplishments by providing the highest quality legal services to the Town during these challenging times in a responsive, flexible, timely, proactive, and effective manner at a reasonable cost. We take very seriously the Town's wellbeing and the Board of Selectmen's vision and strategic plan for the future and intend to assist in any way we can to help the Town move towards its goals. We will continue to work with Town officials to find innovative, efficient, and practical solutions to the legal issues facing the Town. Town Counsel will continue to work with Town officials to handle and respond to the challenges that lie ahead and to help further the Town's mission, community values and progress, as well as to help protect the Town's interests in 2016.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Board of Selectmen for their continued confidence in retaining our firm, and we appreciate the cooperation, assistance and collaboration we have received on all matters from the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator and other Town Boards, officials, and employees. We look forward to our continued work with members of the Rockport Town government in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Darren R. Klein

for the firm of Kopelman and Paige, P.C.,
Town Counsel

TOWN OF ROCKPORT
2015 ANNUAL LIST OF CASES

1. THE FOLLOWING LITIGATION WAS PENDING AT THE END OF CALENDAR YEAR 2015:

Landing Group, Inc. v. Commonwealth of Massachusetts et al.
Land Court, Case No. 14 MISC 488766

This action concerns the right to use and control activities in Pigeon Cove Harbor. The Complaint alleges that the plaintiff has rights to control activities in Pigeon Cove Harbor, which was allegedly authorized by an 1830 statute to construct the breakwater in the Harbor and charge fees for the Harbor's use. In January 2015, the Plaintiff filed a Motion for Summary Judgment, and the Town and the Commonwealth filed Motions to Dismiss. A hearing on the parties' motions was held in the Land Court on April 13, 2015. The Court took the motions under advisement but has not issued any decision. In a separate proceeding, the Landing Group filed an administrative appeal with the Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") from DEP's denial of an amendment that the Landing Group had requested to the Chapter 91 license for its property. (The Town is not a party to that proceeding.) In October 2015, DEP upheld the denial of the license amendment, and ruled that the 1830 statute did not give the Landing Group control of the Harbor. The Land Court has been informed of the DEP decision.

Numerous Residents of Long Beach v. Town
Appellate Tax Board No. F324323, et al.

In this matter, 75 lessees of Long Beach have filed appeals of their FY2014 and/or FY2015 assessments with the State Appellate Tax Board. None of the petitioners have stated how much they believe they have been over-taxed. The Appellate Tax Board has held two discovery/status conferences.

Roma III, Ltd. V. Rockport Board of Appeals, et al.
Land Court, 15 MISC 000074

In this case, brought pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, §17, Plaintiff Roma III, LTD. The owner of property at 129 Granite Street is appealing the Board of Appeals' decision to uphold the Enforcement Order issued by the Town Building Inspector, forbidding Roma from landing a helicopter at the property. The Board of Appeals issued its decision on February 25, 2015 and the decision was filed with the Town Clerk on February 25, 2015. The appeal was filed in Land Court on March 12, 2015.

Roma III, LTD v. Rockport Board of Appeals, et al., and Yankee Clipper, LLC
Land Court, 15 MISC 000085

In this case, brought pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, §17, Plaintiff Roma III, LTD is appealing the Board of Appeals' approval of a special permit for Yankee Clipper, LLC, the owner of the Yankee Clipper Inn at 127 Granite Street. Roma III owns abutting property at 129 Granite Street. The special permit authorizes the installation of a structure with a walk-in cooler on the Yankee Clipper property, close to the lot line with the Roma III property. The special permit was approved by the Board of Appeals on February 26, 2015 and the decision was filed with the Town Clerk on March 2, 2015. The appeal was filed in Land Court on March 18, 2015.

Sheehan v. Town of Rockport
Essex Superior Court No. 1577-CV-00997

In this matter, plaintiff Stephen Sheehan challenges a number of provisions contained in the Long Beach Lease, including the portion of Section 2.6, which allows members of the public to use leased property to access Long Beach. Plaintiff has asserted the lawsuit as a class action, on behalf of all 154 tenants of Long Beach, as a class. Mr. Sheehan has also filed several public records requests and an Open Meeting Law complaint, which have been responded to by the Town.

Stone-Ashe Realty Trust et al. v. Town of Rockport
Essex Superior Court, C.A. No. 04-01629

This is an action brought by the plaintiffs alleging trespass and other damages caused by the general public's use of a Town right of way encumbering property owned by the Stone-Ashe Realty Trust. The Appeals Court issued a decision that confirmed the Town's easement and declared a right of foot passage in the inhabitants of the Town to include a broader right of foot passage available to members of the public. The Appeals Court remanded the case to the Superior Court for further proceedings.

Town of Rockport v. Brown
Essex Superior Court, C.A. No. 15-012-D

On or about October 21, 2014 the Town, by and through its Building Inspector, brought an enforcement complaint relative to defendants' alleged violations of the building code and zoning bylaw. The Town obtained a Preliminary Injunction enjoining the defendants from maintaining the separate apartments and compelling the reconfiguration of the spaces into a single apartment compliant with the Building Code and Zoning Bylaw.

Town of Rockport and the Rockport Police Association, MCOP Local 154
(Military Pay)

This matter involves a grievance regarding the calculation of military pay. An arbitration hearing is presently scheduled to commence on March 3, 2016.

Town of Rockport and the Rockport Police Association, MCOP Local 154
(Termination)

This is an appeal of the termination of a police officer. An arbitration hearing is presently scheduled to commence on April 1, 2016.

2. THE FOLLOWING CASES WERE RESOLVED IN CALENDAR YEAR 2015:

Fortin v. Bernard v. Town of Rockport
Middlesex Superior Court, C.A. No. 13-00316

In this Complaint, the Plaintiff alleged that Defendant's house encroaches onto their lot. The Defendant filed a Third-Party Complaint against the Town, alleging that the Town entered into leases with both parties knowing that the Defendant's house encroaches onto Plaintiff's lot. Both parties also brought claims against the Town, which the Town moved to dismiss. Early in 2015, the Court granted the Town's Motion for Summary Judgment, dismissing the Third-Party Complaint that one of the parties had filed against the Town. This matter is now closed.

Novack v. Rockport Board of Appeals, et al.
Essex Superior Court C.A. No. 2014-01961

The plaintiff, Trustee of 85 Marmion Way Trust, appealed the Board of Appeals' decision to grant a special permit to co-defendants for property at 83 Marmion Way. The special permit allows the extension of an existing garage, its conversion to living space, and enclosure of a covered walkway on a nonconforming residential structure. On December 29, plaintiff (through counsel) mailed notice of the filing of the Complaint to the Town Clerk and the notice was received on December 30th. This failed to comply with the statutory requirement that notice of the filing of an appeal must be received by the Town Clerk within twenty days after the Board decision is filed with the Town Clerk, therefore, Town Counsel filed a Motion to Dismiss. On June 3, 2015 the Superior Court allowed the Motion to Dismiss, without holding a hearing. The plaintiff did not appeal the decision and the matter is now closed.

Roma III, Ltd. v. Yankee Clipper, LLC et al.
Land Court, Case No. 14 MISC 486378

Plaintiff Roma III, Ltd. ("Roma") appealed the grant of a special permit to co-defendant Patricia Fox, Trustee of the Bullfinch House Realty Trust ("Fox"), for the conversion of a two-family residence at 96 Granite Street into a 9-unit inn. Yankee Clipper, as the current recipient of the special permit, defended the permit's validity. On November 2, 2015 the parties filed a Stipulation of Dismissal with the Court. The case is now closed.

Teamsters, Local 42 and Town of Rockport.
Department of Labor Relations; Case Nos. WMAM-15-4580; MUP-15-4680

These matters involved a petition that was filed by the Civilian Dispatchers to form a union. The union was certified by the Department of Labor Relations and these matters are now closed.

Town of Rockport v. Rockport Commons, LLC
Northeast Housing Court Docket No. 15CR000052

The Board of Health through the Health Agent brought an enforcement action relative to alleged State Sanitary Code violations. On August 6, 2015 the parties reached an agreement with the Court to take care of repairs. This matter is now closed.

Yankee Clipper, LLC. v. Roma, III, LTD. (Rockport Board of Appeals)
Essex Superior Court C.A. No. ESCV2013-01794
Land Court Case No. 14 MISC 483384

The plaintiff, who owns the land at 127 Granite Street, appealed the decision of the Rockport Board of Appeals to grant a special permit to Roma III, Ltd., for a proposed building at 129 Granite Street (abutting the plaintiff's property). This case is related to Yankee Clipper, LLC v. Rockport Planning Board, et al., Land Court Case No. 14 MISC 481930, discussed immediately below. On February 13, 2015, the parties reported that the case had settled and on March 17, 2015 the Land Court entered a Judgment of Dismissal.

Yankee Clipper, LLC v. Rockport Planning Board, et al.
Land Court, Case No. 14 MISC 481930

This was an appeal of the decision of the Rockport Board of Appeals which denied the plaintiff's appeal of the issuance of a building permit to Roma III, LLC for the construction of a large dwelling at 129 Granite Street in Rockport. This case is related to Yankee Clipper LLC v. Roma III, Ltd and Board of

Appeals, discussed above. On February 13, 2015 the parties reported that the case had settled and on March 17, 2015 the Land Court entered a Judgment of Dismissal.

AD HOC WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE (AHWC)

This year has been one of reorganization and repurposing for the Ad Hoc Water Committee (AHWC). While the majority of the volunteers on the committee voted to disband the committee prior to Spring Town Meeting in 2015, one member, Laura Evans, spoke in favor of continuing the Town's longest standing volunteer committee (established in 1980), suggesting that a need continues for ongoing citizen vigilance concerning our Town water supply. Town Meeting voted to keep the AHWC alive and in late spring, Janet Breiter and Diane Cartwright joined the committee and were sworn in.

Our initial work started in May and focused on determining if Rockport had conducted a federally mandated Water Vulnerability Assessment Study, in compliance with the Patriot Act. The process was circuitous, to say the least, but our perseverance yielded positive results! Largely through the facilitation of Police Chief Horvath and Lt. Schmink, resulting from our meeting with them, the Ad Hoc Water Committee can report that the Police, the DPW, and the EPA all tell us that Rockport is in compliance, in this regard. It is our understanding that this confidential document resides with direct oversight by the Water Filtration Plant Supervisor Chris Martin, and the Vulnerability Assessment was conducted by a chemical engineer and licensed personnel in 2002/ 2013 as coordinated by former Plant Supervisor Roy Lee. We further understand that this Vulnerability Assessment study needs to be reviewed and updated at least annually and we plan to pursue that status prior to Spring Town Meeting 2016. This Water Vulnerability Assessment plan and documentation is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information act due to the sensitive nature of the material and homeland security implications.

The Ad Hoc Water Committee is discerning its mission moving forward. We have discussed an advocacy role to “conserve and preserve” our Town's most-precious drinking water sources and adjunct bodies. Currently, we are experiencing uncertainty about how the Ad Hoc Water Committee can fulfill its mission (as posted on the Town website) of “assisting the Director [of the DPW] in the investigation [of] and mak[ing] recommendations relating to the Town's water supply” – from a non-engineering point of view. We are supposed to have seven members, all registered voters, including a designee or member of the Selectmen and a designee or member of the Board of Health. We have three members at this time and no member or designee from the Selectmen or Board of Health.

We are also questioning how if at all we should interact with other Town bodies to collaborate on water-related matters. We have discussed whether it would be useful, for example, to build awareness about water saving measures at home and work or to disseminate information about the proper disposal of pharmaceuticals to safeguard our water supply, or even enlist a team of volunteers to monitor our potentially-vulnerable water supply. We have considered investigating potential grants to underwrite water “conserve and preserve” initiatives. We welcome input from others, particularly the Board of Selectmen, on what the Town water-related priorities are and what our “process” should be as we move forward, especially if we succeed in attracting other citizen participation.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Fillmore Evans

Janet Breiter

Diane Cartwright

AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT

The Rockport Ambulance Department (RAD) continues to have an active group of On Call Volunteer EMTs. The State of Massachusetts has converted to the National Registry of Emergency Technicians and all our EMT's have switched over to the national standards. To accommodate the needs of our department and EMT's in our area, we will continue with McNeilly EMS Educators to provide monthly classes to maintain the national standards.

The Rockport Ambulance Department continues to host the annual Emergency Service Day. The event this year was held on May 17, 2016 on T-Wharf with the wharf closed off to display ambulances, fire apparatus, forest fire equipment, police cruisers and equipment along with the 2 harbormaster patrol boats and special guest from USCG Station Gloucester-44' life boat. All apparatus and emergency personnel were available to the public.

Rockport EMTs provide coverage for the Rockport School department's boys & girls sporting events, also coverage for major events, holidays, parades, and numerous road races.

The RAD has received the State approval for NARCAN. We now carry NARCAN on our 2 ambulances.

A second LUCAS II, automatic chest compression, was purchased for Ambulance 2 with the help of our local Rotary International.

Once again, thank you to all emergency agencies along with the DPW who keep the town safe and secure throughout the year.

2015 - 611 calls for service

Rockport Ambulance Department Head/RAD Committee:

Rosemary Lesch

Scott Story

Ruth George



BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

The Beautification Committee of the Town of Rockport is charged with coordinating the planting and maintenance of Town gardens. The Committee plans and designs, purchases, prepares beds, plants, weeds, waters, and otherwise maintains many gardens throughout the town. The Committee also coordinates the activities of several clubs and neighborhood associations which maintain town gardens.

2015 was a busy and productive year. The Committee continued with planting and maintaining many gardens and green spaces around town and continued work on the Front Beach project with a grant awarded by the Community Preservation Committee. To the right of the restrooms, the lawn was once again aerated, fed, and reseeded, and a picnic table was installed in the area next to the motel. To the left of the restrooms, the old wooden fence was removed along with many weeds and other detritus, the area was graded and DPW workers Eddie and Gregg, masons extraordinaire, installed a Rockport granite wall which includes two planters and a granite bench. Benches matching the ones to the right of the restrooms completed that part of the project. Two large planters, a drinking fountain, and a two-bin trash receptacle will complete the project in the spring of 2016.

The Committee has been working with the DPW and the Board of Health to address trash problems, specifically on Bearskin Neck and Dock Square. New receptacles will be installed before the tourist season of 2016.

The small park on Atlantic Avenue, which is called Star Island, was replanted and the grass reseeded. A large granite rock, suitable for seating, was installed which was a donation from a committee member. The Committee is looking ahead to a redo of Harvey Park in 2017.

Former Committee member Nan Blue plants and maintains Pingree Park, a small garden on Story Street next to the ball field. Despite heavy foot traffic, the garden remained vibrant and was enjoyed by many.

The Committee actively seeks and welcomes new members. Many hands and many talents are needed. The Committee welcomed Jill Marshall and Pat McGehee this year.

Submitted by
Stephanie Woolf, Chair

Members:

Terry Duffy, Secretary, Martha Finta, Christine Grenier, Mary Zivkovic, Phinneas Kelly, Mary Mintz, Jill Marshall, Nina Samoiloff, Betsy Giannocarro, Amnon Goldman, and Pat McGeeHee

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health consists of four members who are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. They are Dr. Sydney Wedmore, Dr. Russell Sandfield, Dr. Sydney Jimenez, and recently appointed Bruce Cohen, Ph.D. The Health Agent is Leslie Whelan, R.S., Marianne Peters is the Administrative Assistant, Regina Ghidella, R.N., is the Public Health Nurse, and Laura Osmond is the contracted Food Inspector.

The Board of Health has many important functions that serve to preserve and promote the health and welfare of the citizens of Rockport. The Board is responsible for enforcing Title 5 septic system regulations under the Massachusetts Environmental Code and housing regulations under the State Sanitary Code. Semi-public swimming pools and recreational camps for children are also inspected by the Board of Health. In addition, the Public Health Nurse is responsible for checking on persons with certain communicable diseases.

There are various types of Food Establishments and Bed and Breakfast Establishments, which are inspected regularly, in accordance with the State Sanitary Code.

During the summer swimming season, water samples are collected from the town's public beaches and tested for bacteria. The results of beach testing in Massachusetts are available on line at the town webpage www.rockportma.gov.

In the fall, the Public Health Nurse provided flu vaccinations to local shut-ins. Thanks to the Council on Aging and Senior Care for informing the community about the availability of flu vaccinations for the homebound population.

The Board of Health continues to work with the North Shore Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition (NSCAEPC) comprising 15 communities. The coalition creates plans and share resources for public health emergencies.

The Board of Health continues to work on housing complaints to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents.

In April, the Board of Health hosted an informational forum on fluoride which was instrumental in continuing to support the DPW's effort in fluoridation of the Town's water supply; the Town adopted the new public health standards for fluoridation of 0.7 ppm.

In July, the Board updated its tobacco regulations.

Respectfully submitted,

Sydney M. Wedmore, M.D.
Chairman

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors submits the following report which includes Fiscal 2015 Real Estate and Personal Property valuation totals:

REAL ESTATE PARCELS ASSESSED: 4153

PERSONAL PROPERTY ACCOUNTS: 765

RECAPITULATION

TAX RATE SUMMARY

Total Amount to be Raised	34,315,801.93
Estimated Receipts	14,474,767.97
Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation	19,841,033.96
Real Property Valuations	1,787,449,100.00
Personal Property Valuations	16,281,260.00
Total Property Valuations	1,803,730,360.00
Tax Rate \$11.00	
Real Property Tax	19,661,940.10
Personal Property Tax	<u>179,093.86</u>
Total Taxes Levied on Property	19,841,033.96

Local Estimated Receipts:

Motor Vehicle Excise	855,000.00
Other Excise	428,500.00
Penalties and Interest	100,000.00
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	14,000.00
Water	1,600,000.00
Sewer	1,784,596.00
Trash Disposal	410,000.00
Other Services	80,000.00
Fees	35,000.00
Other Departmental Revenue	152,000.00
Rentals	839,280.00
Schools (Medicaid reimbursement)	45,000.00
Libraries	-0-
Cemeteries	28,000.00
Recreation	-0-
Licenses and Permits	245,783.00
Fines and Forfeits	139,587.00
Investment Income	32,206.00

WATER LIENS ADDED TO FISCAL 2015 TAXES 247,842.72

SEWER BETTERMENTS ADDED TO 2015 TAXES 7,152.46

Classification of real property in the town as of January 1, 2014 as far as valuation is concerned is as follows:

Residential	1,720,816,832.00
Commercial	88,338,568.00
Industrial	4,857,600.00

NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS ASSESSED 2015: 7,965

TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS COMMITTED: 952,163.62

ABATEMENT TOTALS - FISCAL 2015	
Real Estate	26,134.90
Personal Property	12,689.71
Motor Vehicle Excise	17,025.91
Boat Excise	792.00

One of the Assessors’ duties is to verify the request of certain persons qualifying for exemption from taxation under the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws. For example, veterans with disabilities, widows of such veterans, and other qualifying veterans are entitled to exemptions. Persons over seventy years of age who qualify by residence standards, income, and their whole personal estate are entitled to an exemption from a portion of their real estate tax. Certain persons sixty-five years of age or over may postpone payments of all or a portion of real estate taxes up to fifty percent of the owner’s proportional share when deferral and recovery agreements have been entered into with the Board of Assessors.

<u>Fiscal 2015</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Tax Exempted</u>
Veterans with 10% or more disability	31	32,244.00
Paraplegic (widows)	1	3,768.60
Persons over 70 years of age	18	9,000.00
Blind and others	5	2,187.50
Deferred Taxes	2	6,994.80
Community Preservation Act		5,597.76

In addition to the foregoing individuals partially exempt from taxation of their real estate, the following are totally or partially exempt.

Assessed Values
Fiscal 2015

Educational, Fraternal, and Charitable Organizations:	10,446,600.00
Religious Organizations:	9,600,100.00
Government Exemptions:	<u>105,238,100.00</u>
	125,284,800.00

Paul P. Fuhs, Jr., Chairman
George H. Hobbs
Timothy W. Good IV

The Assessor's Office is gearing up for our 10-year Revaluation. We continue to have our data collectors in the field collecting all necessary information on each parcel of land. They will be verifying all information contained on each Field Card, checking Building Permits, and making changes necessary as they travel about Town. The Town's new website is now up and running. The Assessors have made all the Maps and Field Cards available on our page as well as some helpful reports and forms. The new website can be found at www.rockportma.gov. Please take some time to check it out! We are always available in our office to assist you in any way we can. Make an appointment, drop in, send an email, or give us a call at 978-546-2011. We look forward to another productive year.

Regards,

Diane R Lashua
dlashua@Rockportma.gov
Principal Assessor

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Capital Improvement Planning Committee (CIPC) consists of the Town Administrator, Treasurer/Collector, and Town Accountant as well as two representatives from each of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee. By working with each Town department, it studies the capital needs of the Town and submits its recommendation for investments to the Board of Selectmen and to Town Meeting for approval. In the process, the CIPC meets with each Town department to get a thorough understanding of its capital requests. It requires each department to present all of its needs for the next five years to the best of its knowledge and it then ranks each request according to the following priorities:

- 1. Highest priority projects are essential to allow the Town to comply with a critical legislative or governmental mandate or which will eliminate a proven or obvious hazard involving either the health or safety of the public, or protection of public or private property.*
- 2. Second priority projects are those without which an existing or critically needed municipal service cannot be properly delivered either in terms of quality or dependability.*
- 3. Third priority projects are not mandatory but will either save the Town money or increase the economic base or are responsive to the desires of a significant segment of the community.*
- 4. Fourth priority projects are recommended for postponement because of doubt about their justification, lack of adequate planning, or other timing considerations, i.e. a project which is clearly too costly to fit into the Town's current financial picture.*

Next, the CIPC determines the best way for each request to be financed. The result is a five-year forecast of the Town's cash requirements for the requests that the CIPC expects to recommend over the period. Finally, the CIPC recommends the items and amounts for appropriation in the next budget along with their funding sources.

The Committee received \$10,301,900 in general fund requests, including \$7 million for a new DPW garage facility, \$1 million for a new Pigeon Cove Fire Station, \$600,000 for the Millbrook Meadow rehabilitation, \$400,000 for a search and rescue fire truck and \$559,300 for other vehicle replacement. In addition, there are \$250,850 in water requests and \$166,850 in sewer requests from the respective enterprise funds, all of which have been recommended, if sufficient funds are available.

The consensus of the CIPC was that the Town should not incur any new borrowing due to the impact in FY18 of bonding the Pigeon Cove Seawall repairs and mitigation.

The CIPC voted to \$245,735 in general fund free cash, \$182,600 in water free cash and \$166,850 in sewer free cash for new capital outlay. These figures, as well as the enterprise figures are subject to review after the free cash is certified. Other necessary uses for free cash include a balance for the recap, replenishing reserves, and the Assessor's revaluation. The committee also recommended that certain requests be directed elsewhere. For example, the Millbrook Meadow rehab and two boilers for the Legion and Fire Station should be considered by the Community Preservation Committee.

Respectively submitted,

Erin Battistelli, Chairperson

William Wagner, Vice Chair & Finance Committee

Linda Sanders, Town Administrator

Wilhelmina Sheedy, Selectperson

June Michaels, Finance Committee

Carrie Arnaud, Treasurer/Collector

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission is committed to achieving community conservation goals including wetland, open space, and natural resource protection. The stewardship of land is one of our most important responsibilities. To give that work emphasis, the Commission discusses stewardship at the beginning of its meetings. Supporting the increase of protected open land in Rockport, Mel Michaels works through the Board of Selectmen's office to identify parcels of interest. MaryAnn Lash is our representative to the Community Preservation Committee. She pursues CPA funding for these parcels. In 2015 the Commission has worked on several stewardship projects including:

- Organizing and participating in the Annual Earth Day activities in Town.
- Working with the Rockport Garden Club to begin the restoration of Millbrook Meadow and Mill Pond areas through the removal invasive plant species.
- Writing comments to the Environmental Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs on the Environmental Notification Form (ENF) for Millbrook Meadow and Mill Pond Restoration project.
- Writing letters to legislators and to the MA Department of Conservation & Recreation regarding preserving Halibut Point State Park. In addition, our Agent, Commissioner Alan MacMillan and Chairperson of the Board of Selectman Erin Battistelli met with Senator Bruce Tarr to discuss with the DCR its program for revitalizing the visitor's center at the park.

The majority of the Commission's time is spent implementing the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Rockport Wetlands Protection By-law (i.e., issuing wetlands protection permits). These laws protect wetlands and the public interests they serve, including flood control, prevention of pollution and storm damage, and protection of public and private water supplies, groundwater supply, fisheries, land containing shellfish, and wildlife habitat as well as erosion and sedimentation control, water quality, and recreation values deemed important by the community. The Commission holds public hearings, conducts site visits, and issues Determinations of Applicability and Orders of Conditions on proposed projects that fall within 100 feet of wetland resource areas and 200 feet from either side of perennial rivers. In addition, the Commission manages local conservation lands and seeks grant monies for proactive conservation, restoration and open space projects.

The Conservation Commission is comprised of five (5) volunteer members as well as two (2) associate members. The Commission also employs one full-time professional Conservation Agent, Geralyn (Gerri) Falco, and two

part-time clerks, Marianne Peters and Andrea Nichols. Gerri is responsible for the daily management and coordination of all functions and services of the Conservation Commission. She also holds office hours in the Town Hall Annex, assists applicants in the permitting process, and answers questions from any person concerned with open space issues and conservation of natural resources in town. Marianne assists with office organization while Andrea provides her invaluable secretarial support at public meetings. This year, the Commission thanks Charlie Allen for his service to the Town. Charlie moved out of town and thus left the Commission. His position was filled by one of our associate members, David McKinnon.

Proactive efforts of the Conservation Commission in 2015 include:

- Several Commission members attended courses, conferences and seminars including those that were presented at the yearly Massachusetts Association for Conservation Commissions Conference
- With the DPW, maintained access to all of the town beaches
- Worked with the Rockport Garden Club to expand permitting of invasive species (knotweed) removal
- Painted the shed on the S. Johnson property (the Commission's open space) at the end of Pigeon Hill Street
- Worked with the DPW to install a beaver flow device at Loop Pond. Commissioner David McKinnon was instrumental in having Beaver Solutions, Inc. assist in the education and implementation
- The Conservation Agent reviewed all Board of Health and building plan applications for Conservation Commission issues; conducted more than 100 site visits on Town-owned conservation land and applicants' private properties; continued to develop electronic support at the meetings and in the office.

The Conservation Commission is represented on numerous town and regional committees. In addition, the Commission sees the further need to increase its work with the Rockport public schools on conservation issues. Its website (at www.rockportma.gov) has valuable information on many conservation issues and encourages all to visit it. The Commission generally meets on the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month in Town Hall and holds weekly office hours at the Town Hall Annex. The Conservation Commission is always looking for new members, including associate members, and encourages citizens who have a concern in seeing the natural environment of Rockport preserved, to be a part of this Commission. Interested citizens are always welcome to attend our meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence Neal, Chairman
Rob Claypool
MaryAnn Lash

Alan MacMillan
David McKinnon
Melvyn Michaels, Associate

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Rockport Council on Aging was recognized this year by Mutual of America and received a Community Partnership Award for our Elder Health Clinic with the VNA Care Network. The award stated “For being an outstanding example of leadership in the facilitation of partnerships between public, private and social sector organizations to build better communities for the future.”

AARP recognized the Council with a Certificate of Appreciation for working together with the Rockport Police Department in support for the AARP Smart Driver course. The total number of seniors taking the course was the top across the state.

National Senior Network and National Able Network recognized the Rockport Council on Aging. The recognition read “For your crucial role in helping older workers participate in subsidized community service work while acquiring marketable skills and experience to return to the workforce.”

Our fitness programs consisting of Yoga, Strength/Balance, Tai Chi, and the fitness room continued to be very popular. Other popular programs included bingo, Scrabble, knitting, sewing, crocheting, jewelry making, flower arranging, wreath making, duplicate bridge, art classes, computer classes, afternoon teas, luncheons, breakfasts, ice cream socials, bi-monthly birthday parties and birthday cards to those 70+, shredder, and our bi-monthly newsletter to seniors 60+.

We offered many free lectures to seniors together with partnerships from the following organizations: Digital House Calls, Organize That, ABC Home Healthcare, Den Mar Rehabilitation Center, Antiques and Collectibles, Care Dimensions, Massachusetts Bar Association, Homestead Mortgage, Senior Care Options, Institution for Savings, AAA, AARP, Cape Ann Transportation Authority, Element Care, Bedford VA, Hildy Feurbach, Rockport Fire Department, and Sharon Chace.

The dinner programs donated by The Fish Shack Restaurant, Top Dog, and Element Care were very popular. Other partnerships included; Horizons Restaurant, The Red Skiff, Roy Moore Lobster Co., My Place by the Sea, Beadles, Audrey’s Flower Shop, Waring School, Essex Technical School, Rockport High/Middle School, The Rockport Art Association, Annisquam Village Players, VNA Care Network, Mass Audiology, The Beauport Princess, The Open Door, Action, Inc. , SeniorCare, Rite Aid Pharmacy, Sen. Bruce Tarr’s office, The Ipswich Council on Aging, and The Friends of the Rockport Council on Aging.

The seniors traveled on ten day-trips this past year. These included: The Maple St. Bistro, Fenway Park, Providence, RI, Martha’s Vineyard, Block

Island, Troy, NH, Shelburne Falls, MA, Beauport Princess, Stockbridge, MA, and Wrentham, MA.

SeniorCare Nutrition Program provided monthly special luncheons and the monthly traveling chef luncheons. The daily congregate program coordinated by Freda Collins provided 2,277 meals at the senior center and delivered 11,476 home-bound elders in Town. Meals were delivered by Tony Luzio and volunteers, Linda Ames, Bob Beattie, Judy Boggage, Julie & Peter Fariel, Karolina LaTronica, Joan Locke, Joe Zermani, and Tom Moses. SeniorCare provided 25 farmers market coupon booklets to Rockport seniors.

The Council on Aging together with the Open Door Food Pantry and SeniorCare provided 7,268 lbs. of food (fresh vegetables, fresh fruit, canned goods, pasta, yogurt, and milk) to seniors with a total of 524 distributions to 56 people at the Senior Mobile Market located at the center. The Open Door provided bowl painting and a food stamp application specialist at our center.

Addison Gilbert Hospital provided a monthly supper and lecture from April until November at the hospital for Rockport and Gloucester seniors. Our bi-monthly newsletter was sponsored by Addison Gilbert Hospital.

AARP provided tax aides Mary Gundy, Lenny Goodman, and Ron Alpert from February through April to assist 63 seniors and others with their yearly taxes at no charge.

During National Senior Health & Fitness Day, free classes in Tai Chi, Yoga, and Strength & Balance were provided by our instructors. This was a great way for seniors to try something new for their health.

Rite Aid pharmacy in Rockport provided two flu shot clinics to 112 seniors this past year. Mass Audiology held a hearing clinic at the center.

This past spring, The Rockport High School class of 2015, under the direction of Principal Phillip Conrad, held the “Seniors Helping Seniors” program providing 20 senior citizens assistance with their air conditioners, raking, tree trimming, planting, painting, and helping with storm windows. The students returned to the Senior Center for a pizza party after the work was completed.

Marge LeDuc of the VNA Care Network of the North Shore provided health screenings and blood pressure clinics to Rockport seniors once a month throughout the year. We had to say good-bye to Marge this year as she retired from the VNA. We were honored to have Marge at our center for the past 26 years serving Rockport.

Senator Bruce Tarr's office held monthly office hours at the center. This year, Dick Curran of Senator Tarr's office and Ipswich COA assisted us in offering Charlie Card applications.

CATA provided excellent transportation for seniors to the doctor, dentist, hospital, medical center, the senior center, and various shopping destinations throughout Cape Ann, Peabody and Danvers. We would like to thank CATA for their assistance and continued great service.

The Rockport Council on Aging received a grant from the Rockport Cultural Council to have a performance by David Bates here at our center.

In June and November, Council on Aging Board members, along with staff, town employees, Action employees, SeniorCare staff showed support to Stop World Elder Abuse by holding signs at five corners.

We would like to thank our senior center volunteers: Lydia Souza, Kathy Tettoni, Lilia Orozco, Kathleen Kearns, Faith Ronan, Freda Collins, Pat Olson, Jayne Montecalvo, Joanne Wile, Betty Hurst, Jean Brandt, Barbara Anderson, Ruth Magner, Judy Dean, Judy Maxfield, Ann Gilboy, Kay Mattson, Roger Lesch, Faye Anderson, Sue Terry, Coleen McGrath, and Leonard Stockman. We recently lost one of our dear volunteers with the bridge group, Bill Parsons as he passed away in December. He will be missed by all his friends at the senior center.

The Friends of the Rockport Council on Aging have financially assisted with hot breakfasts, continental breakfasts, art supplies, birthday parties, lobster roll luncheons, Chinese food luncheons, a bus trip, ice cream socials, wreath making, flower arranging, afternoon teas, paper goods, coffee, etc. We are very fortunate that this small group of people fundraise to assist us in making our programs affordable to the seniors of town. They have sponsored a duck race for the past seven years raising funds. This year they sent a mailing out. We are deeply grateful for all their support.

Our Council on Aging board members include: Faye Anderson, Chairman, Gilbert McCarthy, Vice Chairman, Roger Lesch, Secretary, Don Sudbay, Jr., Christine Marek, Joan Wood, Sue Terry, and Maureen Beeley. We are delighted to welcome new members, Coleen McGrath, and Diane DeRow.

We are very thankful to all the businesses, non-profits, and Town departments we have partnered with this past year. The support we receive from these groups enhances the programs we provide. I would also like to thank our staff for their dedication, work ethic, and commitment to the seniors. I look forward to working with Council on Aging members, town employees,

community groups, The Friends of Rockport Council on Aging, local businesses, and the Rockport senior citizens.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Bertolino
Director

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Department of Public Works provides a variety of public services and public works improvements & maintenance for the Town of Rockport citizens, visitors, and other governmental agencies. The primary services provided are public road maintenance which includes road drainage and snow plowing, cemetery maintenance, filtration and distribution of potable water, collection & treatment of wastewater, solid waste disposal and recycling services, and public property maintenance, including buildings, playgrounds, beaches and ball fields. The Department of Public Works also performs a variety of administrative functions such as water & sewer utility billing, payroll, utility permitting and procurement & payment of contracts, materials and supplies.

The January and February snow storms of 2015 started the year out with record snow fall amounts. DPW field crews battled the snow storms around the clock as it seemed the snow would just not quit. An outstanding effort was made by our plow drivers to keep our roads safe and passable. When the successive snow storms finally ended snow removal efforts began, utilizing trucks and heavy equipment throughout town to remove snow from sidewalks, bus stops, and intersections. And as winter finally released its grip on the town, repair efforts began on damages resulting from the winter's heavy snow fall, adding to the labor demands on DPW field crews beyond their normal maintenance duties. As repair efforts wrapped up and work efforts became more normal, crews were able to continue with the Water Line Replacement Program in 2015 with the installation of new water lines on Curtis Street and Straitsmouth Way in order to replace the older existing water lines in these roadways. In the fall of 2015 a beautification project at Front Beach was also performed by the DPW field crews. The seating area to the left of the Public Restrooms overlooking the beach was greatly improved with a new concrete walkway leading to granite bench seating, transforming this underutilized area into an easily accessible viewing vista.

The Rockport Department of Public Works Engineering Division accomplished a number of Capital Project Improvements in 2015 as well. Community Preservation Act funds were used to reconstruct the Pingree Park Tennis Courts. The DPW completed two significant projects as part of the Town's Water and Sewer operations. In August, the Department of Public Works completed the construction of the Bedrock Well Pump Station. This new ground water supply source now allows the Water Filtration Division to supplement Cape Pond's surface water supply with additional ground water supply in order to maintain a higher water level in this reservoir that would help alleviate potential water shortages in times of drought and has the added benefit of increasing the water quality in the reservoir, reducing the need for additional

organics treatment. At the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Detritor was replaced in the Headworks Building. The Detritor is a critical piece of equipment to separate the inorganics in the waste water flow as it enters the plant prior to main treatment. Roadway improvement efforts continued in 2015 with the completion of a road reconstruction project on Frank Street utilizing MassDOT Chapter 90 funding. The Department plans to continue its efforts in 2016 to make further repairs to the Town's roadway and drainage systems.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph P. Parisi Jr.
Director of Public Works



Front Beach viewing vista improvements performed by DPW field crews



Reconstructed Pingree Park Tennis Courts funded with CPA funds

DPW BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

In the year 2015, the Board of Commissioners continued the Board's statutory responsibilities to oversee the town's Department of Public Works. During the year, the three-member board, appointed by the Board of Selectmen to staggered three-year terms, included Paul Sena, Jim Gardner and Bruce Reed. The Board sets overall policy and provides general direction for the Director of Public Works and the department.

In order to provide a reasonable level of cost effective services to the Town, one of the Commissioner's most important goal is to assure that adequate resources are available to the department. These resources include an adequate and competent staff, good and safe equipment, efficient and safe facilities, building materials and supplies, and the necessary funding to support these resources to the best of our ability.

Early in 2015, the DPW Commissioners put focus on what they considered their single most import issue facing the Rockport Department of Public Works, the replacement of the Town Barn. The Commissioners instructed the Public Works Director to hire a consultant to start conceptual design efforts for a new DPW Facility. The need for a new facility has been talked about since the 1990's, and since that time several different Board of Commissioners have acknowledged this fact and have authorized various planning efforts toward the construction of a new facility. Today, we are still putting money into a 50 year old building that just needs to be replaced. The building has safety issues, it lacks any kind of fire suppression system to protect the structure, the personnel who work in the building and the town's valuable fleet of vehicles & equipment used to maintain and repair the infrastructure of the town. By the end of 2015, the DPW Director and staff believe they have come up with a cost effective plan that meets the needs of the department and we look forward to presenting these plans to the residents of Rockport and hope to get their approval for funding this project in 2016.

Through staff reports on project updates, the Commissioners had discussion and made decisions on other 2015 projects as well. Among these projects were the Pigeon Cove Harbor Entrance Seawall and Outer Seawall Repairs Project, the Front Beach Vista Improvements, Back Beach Revetment Repairs, as well as the ongoing sewer lining efforts in order to reduce or eliminate storm water infiltration into the Town's sanitary sewer system. The DPW also responded to a number of other requests for assistance from various town departments and committees, ranging from park restoration efforts at the Millbrook Meadow to the demolition of a dilapidated house that was repossessed by the Town. Many of the projects funded by the Community Preservation Committee with the use of Community Preservation Funds many times will also

require that the DPW either provide assistance in the procurement of the project contractors or that the DPW workforce actually perform the work.

In this regard, the Commissioners would like to mention that the importance of the DPW workforce can often be overlooked and the day to day maintenance that they perform can easily be taken for granted. Taking care of our public buildings, roads, utilities, parks, beaches, cemeteries, wharfs, pumping stations, water supplies, watershed land, the water treatment plant, the wastewater treatment plant, the garage, the transfer station and, not least, the technical and administrative offices are all in a days work. We are fortunate in Rockport to have such a dedicated staff. It is with great appreciation we acknowledge the hard work and their many accomplishments of the entire DPW team.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Commissioners

Paul Sena, Chairman

Bruce Reed, Commissioner

Jim Gardner, Commissioner

DOG CONTROL OFFICER

The Town of Rockport Dog Control Officer (“DCO”) position is responsible for responding to resident calls and enforcing the Town By-Laws. The DCO position went through a transition in 2015. Police Officers William Budrow and Daniel Mahoney were appointed as animal control officers in 2014 and completed their assignment on June 30, 2015. The position has been vacant since July 1st with the police department triaging calls and responding when available.

In 2015, there were 305 animal calls, 203 which were dog related. The majority of these calls were complaints about barking dogs, and dogs running loose. When a loose dog was caught, DCOs and/or officers utilized the shelter located on Blue Gate Lane. Most of the time, the dogs were returned to their owners within a couple of hours.

It is very important to have your dogs licensed. Not only is it a requirement, but it helps officers find the owners. Dogs must be vaccinated for rabies prior to being licensed. You can get a license by going into the Town Clerk’s office or you can download a mail-in form on the Town’s website under *Dog/Animal Control*. There are 1,289 dogs registered in the Town of Rockport, only 499 are licensed. This is an area that requires attention to make sure all dogs are licensed.

In general, most people obey the dog ordinances. All residents need to be aware of the leash law here in Rockport. This information is posted on the Town’s website under *Dog/Animal Control*.

We would like to thank Officer Budrow and Officer Mahoney for their service this past year and look forward to identifying a new DCO for our Town in 2016.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Rockport Economic Development Committee (EDC) continued its mission to promote Rockport as a viable place to live, work, and do business with a concentration on information gathering and analysis needed for long-term planning as well as providing a positive public perception of the community and its strengths. The ultimate long-term goal is to address the trend towards aging demographics and stagnant business development in the town, which will affect the long-term viability of Rockport.

Economic Analysis: Using the results of the EDSAT report commissioned during 2014-2015 from Professor Barry Bluestone of the Dukakis Institute at Northeastern University, the EDC has worked to identify issues and areas where it can effect change. These include online accessibility to documents and information, zoning and infrastructure concerns, and public and business perceptions of the positive aspects of the town. Many of these issues require collaboration with other town committees and departments, as well as outside state or regional entities, and are part of an ongoing process.

In addition, the EDC, along with other regional economic and community development officials, sought and received a briefing from the authors of a comprehensive national, regional and local demographic report produced by the Donahue Institute at UMass. The information provided context for the demographic downturn in Rockport and is expected to lead to collaborative regional activity by Cape Ann communities to proactively deal with key issues.

Promotion: In keeping with the EDSAT report, which identified the need to create an aggressive promotional outreach campaign showcasing Rockport's strengths, the EDC continued to work with public relations agency Warner Communications. This has resulted in visibility in both online and traditional media reaching over 54 million readers and receiving coverage valued at over \$365,000.00. Younger people with families are a top target for outreach, as are potential businesses both visitor and non-visitor related. Rockport's excellent school system and public safety as well as natural beauty and cultural opportunities, are all positives.

Collaboration: The EDC continued to work with other Town departments and local organizations to foster joint projects to benefit the long-term prosperity of the town. Support was provided to the Rockport Cultural District's mobile app as well as to its administrative and organizational efforts. A Metropolitan Area Planning Council grant remains under consideration for funding technical information assistance and the EDC continues to explore ways in which to work with the various committees concerned with zoning and infrastructure, as well as green issues, to better coordinate use of resources and

minimize duplication of efforts on housing, business development, and infrastructure.

During the upcoming fiscal year, the EDC will strive to move from its information-gathering and assessment mode to proactively putting together coalitions and programs to act on what we've learned. This is expected to be a complex, multi-year process.

Respectfully submitted,

Lana Razdan, Chair

Members:

Peter Beacham

Jim Cox

Rol Hoffman

Rob Liebow

Theresa Scatterday

FINANCE COMMITTEE



*Seated: Laurene Wessell-Chair, Wally Hess, and Ian Crown
Standing: Beth Dailey, June Michaels, and William Wagner
Missing: Michael Hughes, Roger Levine, and Melissa Tingley*

The Finance Committee's prime responsibility is to make recommendations to Town Meeting on all financial matters including the annual operating budget, capital projects, borrowing, and funding sources. The Finance Committee advises and reports to the voters at Town Meeting. Our goal is to ensure that the voters understand the issues involved, and especially the financial implications of the articles at Town Meeting, so that they may make informed decisions.

In recent years, the Town has been able to maintain essential services, despite decreases in Federal and State aid, by adhering to a conservative approach to the Town budget. Upcoming issues with seawalls and Town buildings along with rising liabilities due to retirement benefits and health insurance for retirees will continue to put pressure on Town finances. Therefore, it is prudent to continue this conservative approach to spending for the foreseeable future.

The Committee also manages a reserve account for the Town and votes on any requests it receives throughout the year. Requesting departments must demonstrate that the need was unforeseen when the budget was approved and that the need is urgent. In FY2015 the reserve fund was \$303,500.00 and \$167,090.00 was unspent and returned to Free Cash that will be available in FY2017.

The following table lists all approved requests.

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Demolish 59 High St	\$ 7,750.00
Town Accountant Temp.	\$ 35,000.00
Police Chief Search Consultant	\$ 22,995.00
Town Accountant Placement Fee	\$ 18,750.00
Workers' Compensation Audit Bill	\$ 9,564.00
Parking Engineering Study	\$ 5,000.00
Town Accountant Consulting Fee	\$ 1,550.00
Add Stipends Due to Winter OT	\$ 16,552.00
Installation of New Parking Meters	\$ 2,000.00
Health Insurance Shortfall	\$ 12,706.00
Commercial Auto Liability Insurance	\$ 121.00
Thacher Island Boat Drivers Wages	\$ 485.00
Accountant Services to Close out FY14 balances	\$ 3,030.00
Emergency Lighting Repairs	\$ 907.00
Total Approved	\$136,410.00

Respectfully submitted,

Laurene Wessel, Chairman
William Wagner, Vice Chair
Wally Hess
Michael Hughes
June Michaels
Roger Levine
Melissa Tingley
Beth Dailey
Ian Crown

FIRE DEPARTMENT



The Board of Fire Engineers would like to thank all members and their families for their service to the Town of Rockport. Countless hours of time by dedicated people make up the Fire Department.

We would also like to thank the Rockport Ambulance and the Police Department for their assistance at all fires; day and night we can count on them. With them being there gives a sense of safety to all on scene.

The Rockport Department of Public Works is always there when we need them. They supply a great water system to help us fight fires when needed. Their highway crew sands at slippery scenes and allows us a training area at the DPW yard. Thank you.

Most of all, we would like to express our gratitude to the people of Rockport, who support us each and every year. Thank you.

The Rockport Fire Department had a very active year serving the Town of Rockport. This year we had a total of 263 runs which include Squad Calls, (115) Engine II / Combination A calls (67) 39 of these calls were for CO, 5-5 Mutual Aid Engine I (8), Ladder 1 calls (6) and 67 box alarms which is all apparatus responding. That was a total of 263 runs, up 40 calls over last year.

As you are all aware, it was a brutal winter; the department had a very busy January and February with record snowfall came record runs. The stations were manned as much as possible and we responded for calls for help throughout the storms. The members wrangled in 150-pound propane tanks from White

Wharf; they were called to help our elderly population to clear snow from heating vents and even did transport to emergency shelters when needed. We had a very stubborn house fire in high winds and below freezing temperatures on Hodgkin's Street. Our members left their homes to protect yours, and they are always there for you when needed.

Our Town's firefighters do far more than fight fires. We are the first responders called to either chemical and/or environmental emergencies ranging from the suspected presence of carbon monoxide to a gas leak. We may be called to rescue a child who has fallen through the ice or who has locked himself in a bathroom. We rescue people from stalled elevators and those who are trapped in vehicle accidents. Being a seaside town, our firefighters also respond to water-related rescues and recoveries. We test and maintain our equipment, ranging from self-contained breathing apparatus to hydrants, hoses, power tools, rescue rafts, and vehicles.

We are proud of all the men and women of the department who serve our town. Again this year we had one member complete the Massachusetts Fire Academy training program, this is no small achievement. For six months, three days a week of their own time going through the rigors of fighting fires and classroom studies. This is what sets us up for success.

This year, we had ongoing training by certified instructors. We had fifteen members certified in pump operation. The companies also do intensive training on the company level in SCBA, and firefighting techniques. Ladder drills are conducted along with car rescue. Jaws of Life training was held many times throughout the year. This year, we are adding solar panel training; there are over 100 homes in Town with solar panels, and the number is growing.



On the Fire Prevention side, we have continued to go to local schools and educate our children in fire safety. This year, Captain Tanson of Speedwell Engine Co., educated the senior citizens of the Town of the hazards of fire related incidents. The department received a Safe Grant from the states Fire Marshalls'

office that has allowed us to purchase smoke and carbon monoxide detectors for our citizens.

A new Engine 3 has been in the works and going to bid shortly.

The Town's Fire Inspector continues to issue permits and complete fire inspections throughout the Town. The inspector is responsible for all smoke, carbon, oil burner, and fuel tank permits issued from the department. He also oversees the fire drills at all the schools in town. The inspector also inspects multi-family rentals and businesses for compliance to state regulations.

The department is close to a full complement of firefighters, but always looking for dedicated members to join our team. Just come and visit with us.

The following is the list of apparatus of the Rockport Fire Department:

Engine 1 1999 Pierce Saber 1500 gallon a minute pump
Engine 2 2009 Spartan/4 Guys 1500 gallon a minute pump
Engine 3 1986 Ford FMC 1000 gallon a minute pump
Squad 1 2005 HME Silver Fox 1500 gallon a minute pump
Ladder 1 2012 Sutphen 100 foot aerial
Combination A 1988 F-350 lighting plant and light rescue



The following is a list of officers of the Rockport Fire Department:

Chief James Doyle

Assistant Chief Kirk Keating

Assistant Chief John Porter

Captain Philip Tanson - Speedwell Engine Company

Captain Andrew Porter - Sandy Bay Engine Company

Captain Mark Wonson - Squad One

Captain Larry Libert - Ladder One

Lieutenant Stephen Abell Jr - Speedwell Engine Company

Lieutenant Mike Larkin - Speedway Engine Company

Lieutenant Kristian Juncker Jr. - Sandy Bay Engine Company

Lieutenant Kevin St.Peter - Sandy Bay Engine Company

Lieutenant William Montgomery - Ladder One

Lieutenant Frank Favaloro - Squad One

Respectfully submitted;

James Doyle, Chief of the Department

Kirk Keating, Assistant Chief

John Porter, Assistant Chief

FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

For 2015 we had the following number of calls:

Brush Fire	6
Mutual Aid	1
Wet Down	1
Campfires	2
Assist the Public	4
Cellar Pumps	7
Search and Rescue	1
Days Spent on Standby	5
Burning Permits	50

Our Equipment:

2004 Ford F250 4WD

1983 Chevy 4WD

1977 Ford F150 4WD (Currently out of commission)

1941 Ford

This year was a different one for us as a department. We had a reduction in the number of burning permits due to the large amount of snow that fell late in the winter. We did provide storm coverage during blizzards and as always are available to assist the citizens of the Town whenever necessary.

We have started searching for a new truck to replace our 1977 Ford which is nearly 40 years old and beyond any repairs that would be fiscally responsible. We hope to be ready for the 2017 Town Meeting with a proposal for the new vehicle.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members for all their hard work, training, and availability. The Town is fortunate to have such a dedicated department. I would also like to thank the Police, Fire, and Ambulance Departments as well as the DPW for all their support.

Respectfully,

Michael Frontierro
Forest Fire Warden

FRIENDS OF SCOUT HALL COMMITTEE

Although the Rockport Friends of Scout Hall Committee is not a Selectmen appointed committee, the committee's focus is centered around the revitalization and operations of the historic Town-owned building known as the Alvin S. Brown Scout Hall at 47 Mt. Pleasant Street which is owned by the taxpayers of Rockport and should be of interest in many of the readers of this year's annual report. This is an overview of the goals of the committee, our plans for the building, progress over the past year, and plans for the future.

The Alvin S. Brown Scout Hall was built in 1840. It was originally the Mount Pleasant Street School and was active as a schoolhouse up to the mid 1920s, and then used as a meeting place for Boy Scouts. In 1969, the building was dedicated to Alvin S. Brown who was a long time Scoutmaster in Rockport. In the mid-nineties, the building was closed to the public because of badly needed repairs. As the building sat idle, many options were discussed including demolition and selling the property. It was becoming clear that if some effort to the restore the building were not undertaken, the fate of this historic building would be dismal.

In 2003, a committee formed and presented a business plan to the Selectmen to preserve and restore the building as well as regain a functional use of the building as a meeting place for the local Scouting community, which have not had a formal place to meet in several years. Our funding had been through three Community Preservation Act grants (2003, 2004, 2007, and 2011), fundraising, and in-kind donations of materials, labor, and services. To date, we have received \$292,396 from CPA funding, over \$20,000 from fundraisers and donations, and have had over \$120,000 in in-kind donations.



Brownie Troop 78003 using Scout Hall for one of their troop meetings

The Rockport Friends of Scout Hall is now a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization and currently is comprised of a committee represented by the local Scouting organizations active in Rockport. This includes the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Cub Scouts. The committee's goal is to provide guidance, leadership, to secure funding, and manage this project. The Board of Directors consists of the following members: Jeff Amero, Susan Collins, Kevin Ellis, Liz Finer, Paul Franklin, Jeff Hildonen, Gary Lucas, Heather Morin, Patti Tucker, and Jonathan Weaver. Outgoing members who served in 2015 were Fleur Irvin and Wanda Visnick.

The building is busier than ever in 2015. Once again, this year we had the most use of the building since it reopened, hosting over 200 events throughout the year including Scout meetings by the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Cub Scouts, and other Scouting related activities in the hall such as rank advancement, overnights, movie nights, and leader meetings. Troop 20 Boy Scouts, many Girl Scout troops, and Pack 55 Cub Scouts are still using the building on a regular basis. The children in these organizations range from 6 to 18 years of age and there are over 250 registered Scouts in Rockport.

The hall was also used for several events and meetings outside of scouting which fulfilled our plan to make the facility open for community based use. Again we hosted two music events for Rockport New Year's celebration. Other uses for Scout Hall included exercise classes, use by Rockport Fireworks Committee, some community committee meetings, and a few private events.

In 2015, we used Community Preservation Act funding to make some exterior improvements which were approved by the Rockport Historical Commission. New wooden doors replaced older temporary metal doors and new light fixtures were installed. We also began drainage improvements by installing copper gutters and downspouts on the parking lot side of the building. In 2016, we will continue working on subsurface drainage improvements and more work in the basement.

Please support our efforts to restore this building for community use! For more information on this project, contact any of our committee members, write to us at P.O. Box 262, or e-mail us at friendsofscouthall@yahoo.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Amero

President

Rockport Friends of Scout Hall, Inc.

GRANITE PIER COMMITTEE

The year 2015 for the most part ran well. The winter was spent mostly reorganizing some of our documentation; for example, the storage of boats, both summer and winter, contracts for the pier and the transfer station storage.

Some of the winter storage boat people that sign our contract, stating that they will have their vessel off the pier by June 15th, did not do so. We try to be patient and send a notice to remove the vessel within 10 days or issue a \$50.00 fine. This also, in some cases, did not work. The only thing that the committee decided would work would be to hire someone to remove the vessel and take it to a commercial storage area and send the violator the bill for the transfer. This however is a lot of extra work for the committee to do.

We spent the winter meetings reworking the contracts. Whereas the wording of the contracts is more specific and a dated signature is required.

The Pier was a storage area for the huge pieces of granite to be used in the rebuilding of the Main harbor breakwater. To do this was to clear an area used for trap storage entailed rapping the traps being removed to the top level of the pier and coordinating with the particular lobster man. The winter saw the pier filled with huge machines moving these granite stones from the top level to the lower level.

The granite next was transferred to a barge for transport to the work area. This went on for most of the winter until the granite was delivered directly to the work site.

The spring saw the items that were stored on the top level returned to the lower level. Later, the normal goings on of working on boats and eventually launching them went on well. The summer live storage went on without any problems. We noticed some of the live storage trailers were not registered so we made a notice to inform those violators to register their trailer or remove it from the pier. We also decided that there will no longer be active summer storage extended contracts. The reason for this is, once again, not removing boats by the required date.

The fall can bring problems, if the summer live storage boats are not removed from the pier by the allotted time so the large sail boats can be stored for the winter. The coordinating of the large boats coming out of the water and put in the proper winter storage spot went well.

The December meeting, we decided to make a GRANITE PIER RULES, REGULATIONS, AND CONTRACTS FOLDER. This is coming along well.

We also voted again with a unanimous decision that we are not in favor of extending the gap between the pier and Sandy Bay ledge proposed by the Harbor Advisory Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Nichols, Chairman

Granite Pier Members:

C. Nichols, Chair

E. Rask, Secretary

F. Levesque

J. Thompson

M. Tupper

Pier Coordinator: *R. Hoffman*

HARBOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(1) Regarding Granite Pier, the Harbor Advisory Committee (HAC) has been working with the Town's Department of Public Works (DPW). In January the DPW utilizing \$5,500 which the HAC obtained from the Community Preservation Committee and approved at Town Meeting, entered into a contract with GZA Consulting to review and update a study performed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1965. The study concerned the possible extension of Granite Pier to Gull Island, an extension of 600 feet to create an expanded harbor. GZA submitted its report in May. In September, the DPW submitted the report to the Corps of Engineers. At the same time, Senator Tarr obtained \$20,000 of State funds toward further study. The Army Corps appointed a project manager and met with town and State officials in November. The proposal does not yet have a federal funding number enabling the Army Corps to study further; that is in progress.

(2) Also regarding Granite Pier, the HAC supported a proposal from the Granite Pier Committee and Harbormasters to construct a staircase at Granite Pier from the lower level to the upper level. At the Fall 2015 Town Meeting the voters approved \$25,000 for detailed engineering plans to construct such a staircase.

(3) The HAC also continued normal business of reviewing trap and gear storage applications.

Respectfully submitted,

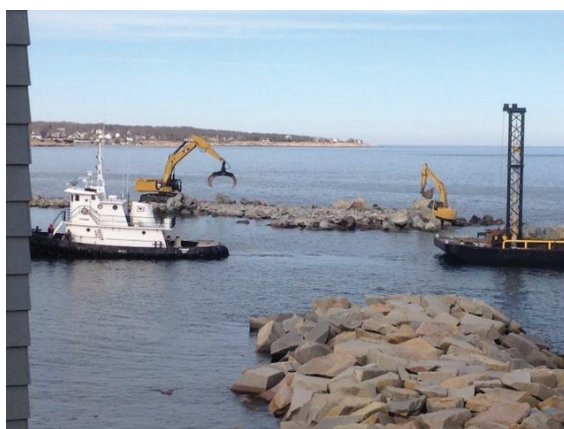
Skip Montello
HAC Chair

HARBOR DEPARTMENT

The Rockport Harbor Department consists of four harbormasters who are State certified harbormasters, shellfish officers, EMT's or first responders whose duties consist of managing the waterfront and oversee the safety of local and visiting boaters, commercial and recreational.

The 2015 season was an active one with the following highlights:

Bearskin Neck Breakwater: Work continued during the extreme winter weather with completion by late June. This new construction has created a new attraction for visitors to Town along with providing more protection for the harbor.



Mooring Fees: The moorings fees were increased to help with the operating expenses of the Harbor Department. There had not been an increase in over 10 years.

Old Harbor: Work was done to open up the entrance to the harbor. The winter weather had closed up the entrance and maintenance had to be done before boats could enter or excite the harbor.

Rescue of two Kayakers: Late in May, two kayakers were rescued by Mike Tupper, owner of the FV Freemantle Doctor, and his crew Jim Kluge. The pair had launched their kayaks from Front Beach late on a Saturday afternoon and paddled out to the Dry Salvages area when trouble hit. Their kayaks capsized and the 2 swam to the highest point which was the Dry Salvages. Darkness was falling and they spent the night and most of the next day huddled together on the exposed rocks. The Freemantle Doctor was heading home late on Sunday afternoon and Jim Kluge spotted the pair waving for help. Mike Tupper called Rockport Patrol and upon our arrival they retrieved the male and we got the

female off the Rocks. Both persons were brought into Rockport Harbor and transported to Addison Gilbert Hospital. After 2 days at AGH with hypothermia and cuts and bruises they were released. We are thankful for all the help and very thankful for Mike and Jim on the Freemantle Doctor.

Divers in Distress: Later in June, we received a call from the RPD that there were 2 divers in a small 16' aluminum boat and one diver was in distress. Upon our arrival to the area we found a 16' boat with one diver in it and the other was in the water. Our protocol was followed and we brought the distressed diver in to Rockport Harbor where the Rockport Ambulance was waiting.

Numerous other diver incidents occurred during the season.

Blackburn Challenge: August brought the Blackburn Challenge to Sandy Bay with over one hundred paddlers in all sorts of vessels. The sea conditions were not favorable for this event and there were capsizing and swamping of vessels which were crossing Sandy Bay.

Front Beach Swim Float: During the summer months, there were all sorts of problems with the Front Beach swim float. The float had out lived its life expectancy. Built with pride by local contractors over 15 years ago, it just could not withstand another season. Due to popular demand, the Harbor Department realized a replacement was necessary for this season and within a week there was a new float at the beach for all to enjoy.

Fireworks: In early August the annual fireworks were displayed off of Granite Pier. The weather was predicted to be a little easterly with showers but as the day went on, the skies cleared and a spectacular fireworks display was seen from land and sea.

Medical Emergency: There were a number of medical emergencies during the summer with the most memorable being at Folly Cove on a 50' cabin cruiser. A gentleman/passenger on board was having a medical problem and upon our arrival it was determined the best plan of action would be to bring him, on that boat, into Rockport Harbor. All worked well and we treated and transported to Rockport Harbor where the person was transported to Addison Gilbert Hospital via the Rockport Ambulance.

Labor Day: Labor Day came and went with the usual congested harbor and pretty much concluding the busiest weekend of the summer.

Cruise Ship Incident: At approximately 7:15pm on September 11th, we heard a "man overboard" call on marine channel 16. The 650ft cruise ship "Seabourn Quest" had alerted an emergency of a person overboard 10 miles off the coast of Rockport. After entering the coordinates of the incident, we got underway to the designated location. The weather conditions were clear, cool with seas 5 to 8 ft.

Also in the area and responding was a local 35' tuna boat Kaybur, USCG Station Gloucester's 47' life boat came out of Gloucester and a 270' USCG cutter was diverted to the area. Within 15 minutes of arriving at the location of the "Seabourn Quest", after a 30-45 minute run from Rockport Harbor to coordinates), the Kaybur spotted what he thought was the victim. The recovery and transport was then coordinated between the federal, state and local agencies. Rockport harbormasters retrieved the victim and transported into Rockport Harbor where they were met by the appropriate authorities. Whales and Seals: Several whales and seals were reported sick, injured or deceased on our shores. All state and local protocols were followed in dealing with each individual situation.

Massachusetts Harbormaster Association camera grant: In early December the Massachusetts Harbormaster Association was awarded a million-dollar grant from FEMA for cameras to be installed in waterfront communities from the New Hampshire boarder to the Cape Cod Canal. Each community will receive between 2-5 cameras in strategic locations for homeland security purposes. Rockport will receive 5 cameras.

Pigeon Cove Harbor Breakwater: Work has begun on the outer breakwater and entrance to the harbor sea wall. The work will progress during the winter months and the scheduled completion date is late June or early July 2016. Classic Site Solutions, Inc. who did the Bearskin Neck Breakwater is also doing the Pigeon Cove work.

Santa Claus: The season comes to a close with the arrival of Santa Claus on the FV Freemantle Doctor. This year the event was scheduled for 1pm. The weather was great and the crowds were huge. This was a great way to start the Christmas season.

Commercial fishing continues to be a significant part of the waterfront activity in Rockport. In 2014, according to the most recent statistics provided by the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, there were 52 active commercial lobstermen in Rockport; who landed 1,014,968 lbs. of lobster worth an estimated \$4.4 million to the fishermen. The Harbor Department continues to work cooperatively with Rockport's commercial fishermen on issues that include bait storage, moorings and enforcement.

The Rockport Harbormasters are active members of the Massachusetts Harbormaster Association with Rosemary Lesch, president and Scott Story, president of the North Shore Harbormasters Association and both are members of the Governors appointed Massachusetts Harbormaster Training Council.

Rockport Harbormasters:
Rosemary Lesch, Scott Story
978-546-9589

Assistant Harbormasters:
Ron Petoff, Scott Story

rockportharbormasters@rockportma.gov

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT



*Mitchell R. Vieira, HR Director; Marianne Peters, HR. Asst. and
Melissa Cox, Payroll & Benefits Specialist*

It is my privilege to submit the first report of the Human Resources department. The department was established on July 1, 2015 to allow for a specific focus on all facets of the Town's biggest asset – its employees.

In addition to my position as Assistant Town Administrator, I have assumed the position of Director of Human Resources. I am fortunate to work with Human Resources Assistant Marianne Peters and, in partnership with the Treasurer/Collector's office, Payroll & Benefits Specialist Melissa Cox. Both employees have been essential in getting the department up and running. The focus for the first six months has been establishing the department's physical presence with an office in Town Hall and organizing and consolidating personnel-related records. Significant time was also spent on compliance matters relating to the Commonwealth's ethics and anti-harassment requirements. Many thanks to the employees and volunteers for their time and patience in completing these necessary tasks.

Looking ahead to 2016, the department will be busy with the negotiation of all general government collective bargaining agreements which are set to expire on June 30, 2016. We will also be implementing uniform hiring practices for our seasonal hires; this is already in place for full and part time hires.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, and Personnel Board for their ongoing support. Thanks also to Marianne and Melissa for their considerable efforts and to Debbie Powers, Board of Selectmen Office Manager, for all of her assistance on a daily basis. Finally, my deep appreciation to the Citizens of Rockport for their efforts in making Rockport the wonderful community that it is today.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell R. Vieira

Human Resources Director

INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Government & Education Services

The Rockport Information Systems and Technologies Department's (IS&T) mission is to create technology related systems and infrastructures that are robust, resilient, agile, mobile and designed for maximum efficiency. For the IS&T Department, 2015 has marked a year of stability and incremental improvements on our newly completed major projects as well as process improvements on smaller ones. With the exception of the new Town website and Google for Education, this year has been mostly about finishing up our recent major projects while looking to improve the town's processes. The combined Government and School Department continues to work well, fostering interdepartmental cooperation, improving operational efficiencies as well as creating savings when possible.

Completed Major Projects:

In 2015, we implemented a New Town Website at the following address, (www.rockportma.gov). This site is designed to be accessible from mobile devices as well as including all of the features that make a successful modern website. The new website will continue to evolve and improve as we seek to make the site better or more current or the person seeking information about Rockport.

In 2014, the Government Departments all converted to Google for Government. This past summer the schools transitioned to Google for Education. This transition reduces our dependency on Microsoft Office suit as well as offers many incredibly useful and collaborative tools such as Google Classroom. This was done in conjunction with adding 113 new Chromebooks including 5 carts and 2 wall mounted charging stations in the HS/MS. Building on the Google platform with Chromebooks will allow for greater accessibility of technology for staff and students, as well increase the collaboration between staff and students.

Ongoing projects:

With the goal of improving the amount of time each teacher has to teach each day, we have continued to install projectors on the walls, instead of having them in the center of each room on a cart. This more permanent configuration allows for reduced setup time and reduces interruptions and allows for better physical room configurations. The ES is complete; the MS is about half way with the HS needing the most work.

The expansion of the Municipal Fiber Network (MFN) continues and now includes Wastewater, Harbormaster, Ambulance, Fire, Recreation and COA. This means these buildings are now all utilizing the same physical Government and School network, internet and phone system. Having everyone use the same

phones, network and internet has already made communication easier, allowed for a much more secure set of systems and will reduce costs.

We increased wireless security by adding a centrally located wireless controller and adding more than 40 access points to allow for dramatically higher wireless capacity in both the government and schools.

Town Library and Police servers were replaced, 75% of all government computers were replaced, one school PC lab was upgraded, twenty iPads were added in the ES, plus the normal life cycling of equipment ensuring aging equipment does not hinder our employees' productivity.

Internet capacity, we now have two 150MB connections and an additional 50MB dedicated fiber line being utilized by the Government and Schools. These lines are all shared for maximum efficiency and have built in redundancy to reduce outages.

Conversion of historical physical documents into electronic is an ongoing project that has gone thru the Town Clerk's office, DPW and now is assisting the Treasury and School Guidance in making each department more efficient.

Training has continued to be an important focus in our department. I am confident that more government employees have received technical training this year, than any other year in Rockport history.

Future Projects:

The Emergency Communications and Security Project has been designed and formally proposed. This will be important to fund and complete this project relatively soon due to the status of the decades old current inadequate and failing systems.

This project has several major parts. Part one is the radio systems for the whole town. The three current radio systems will be replaced, upgraded and combined into one system. This means the coverage for all radio systems will be improved and allow for complete coverage for all areas of the Town. The actual radios will be replaced. All devices in police cars, ambulance, fire trucks and school buses as well as hand held units will be upgraded. Part two, is the cameras that will be strategically added to increase public safety. New cameras are to be installed in locations that support our law enforcement and emergency responders. These locations include the Harbors, exteriors for Government buildings and Town infrastructure. Part three, is the key card access system for the schools, creating a safer school environment.

Expansion of the town generators to support our computer and phone systems during power outages is part of our disaster recovery plan and is another major project that is currently in the works.

Respectfully,

Monty Hitschler

Director of Information Systems & Technologies
Rockport MA, Gov & Ed Services

INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

The Inspector of Animals is nominated by the Board of Selectmen and appointed by the State Division of Animal Health. The Inspector of Animals is responsible for the control of rabies in the domestic animal population and developing a census of domestic farm animals.

The primary duty of the Inspector of Animals is rabies control in the domestic animal population.

Rabies Facts:

- *Rabies is a viral disease that affects the central nervous system*
- *Rabies virus is spread by contact with the saliva of an affected animal*
- *The most common carriers in the U.S. are raccoons, bats, skunks, and fox, etc.*
- *State law requires all cats and dogs be vaccinated for rabies even if they are indoor pets*

The Municipal Inspector of Animals is contacted by local veterinarians when a client presents an animal that may have had an encounter with a potentially rabid animal. In the case of humans being bitten or scratched, the attending physician will contact the Inspector of Animals. In 2015, there were 25 bites that resulted in 24 ten-day quarantines and 1 six-month quarantine.

The Inspector of Animals is responsible for barn inspections to get the most accurate number of livestock population of the Town. This information is useful in making risk assessments should any natural or manmade disaster occur. This year's census is: 47 horses (40 horses, 4 miniature horses, and 3 ponies). There are 18 beef cattle, 1 llama, 2 sheep, 1 goat, 11 rabbits, and approximately 158 known poultry. The Inspector of Animals has noted the outstanding care and general sense of pride in the residents' animals and compliance with the Town's rules and regulations.

If the Inspector of Animals has not been to your address this year and you have any farm animals or poultry, please call to report updates.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Place

Inspector of Animals

INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Paul M. Orlando
Inspector of Buildings

Joseph P. Guzzo
Plumbing and Gas Inspector

George King
Wiring Inspector

Nancy Kearns
Administrative Assistant

The mission of the Department of Inspection Services is to ensure that the built environment within the Town of Rockport is a safe place for all people to live, learn, work, worship or visit. This is accomplished through fair and consistent enforcement of, and inspection for compliance with, all State and Local Rules and Regulations applicable to construction and building occupancy. It is our wish to assist every applicant to achieve their goals within the Codes, Ordinances, Rules and Regulations under our jurisdiction.

During the year of 2015, this office has issued 1,039 permits and our inspectors have conducted over 2,500 site inspections. Permit activity was higher with an 11% increase in total number over the previous year. The fees collected through the issuance of such permits account for the department's entire operating cost. The Inspection Services staff devoted a great deal of time and attention to the various construction projects in the Town through reviews, multiple inspections and meetings.

In addition to our permitting and inspections, our inspectors have attended training seminars during the year to keep current on recent code changes, new materials and different applications as they become available. The Inspector of Buildings completed multi-day training offered by FEMA on hurricane resilient design for coastal communities. We work hard to make the local contractors and homeowners aware of these changes and how they affect the development projects in Rockport.

The following is a breakdown of permits issued by our department:

Building Permits	475
Plumbing / Gas Permits	309
Electrical Permits	255

MILLBROOK MEADOW COMMITTEE



Rockport Middle School students spend a day in Millbrook Meadow studying plants, eels and beavers with Eric Hutchins and Colleen Coogan of NOAA

Millbrook Meadow Committee, since 2012, has been devoted to a massive project for the Town—the restoration of the four-acre parcel in downtown Rockport, adjacent to King and Beach Streets and Mill Lane. This year plans for restoration neared completion, so construction may start in September, 2016.

The family of George Todd donated the Pond to the Town in 1936. Rockport's Garden Club gave the property now known as the Meadow to the Town in 1938.

During World War II (1941-1945) the Meadow was used to plant many Victory Gardens. Right after the war it was necessary to modify Mill Brook to accommodate heavy storm drains from newly developed areas around the Boston & Maine (now MBTA) Railroad Station. A channel was dug for the brook on the north western border of the Meadow, and it was lined with granite blocks.

In 1951, Lura Hall Phillips began efforts to save the Meadow from becoming a town parking lot and over the next 40 years worked to protect and preserve this beautiful parkland. When she died in 1994 she left money in trust for the Meadow.

Over many decades Rockporters have enjoyed the Meadow for festivals, fairs, picnics, weddings, games and just fun. For over a century, Rockporters have skated on the Mill Pond, and it was once a good place to catch small fish.

The dam between the Pond and Meadow, originally built in 1702, blew out in 2006, and was finally replaced in 2012, and it was then that the

Committee, led by John Sparks, began a very comprehensive project to restore the area.

Construction of the new dam dramatized the poor condition of the Pond and the Meadow. The Pond was filled with silt, its original eight-foot depth now reduced to four feet or less and badly clogged with aquatic plants.

The Meadow was often soggy, the Brook was clogged with loose stones and debris, and several large trees were dead or dying.

Barbara and John Sparks led the Committee's drive to obtain funding from Town Meeting and from the Community Preservation fund. The Committee obtained \$182,245 from the Lura Hall Phillips Trust, and went to Town Meeting and townspeople voted \$60,000 in regular Town funds and \$100,000 in Community Preservation Funds (total of \$322,000) to begin the restoration.

Plans for Restoration: Since late in 2013, Milone & MacBroom has been at work on plans for restoration of Meadow and Pond, and now final construction plans are being completed, and the plans are in the process of submittal to State, Federal and local authorities for permits.

At year's end Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) had granted a certificate for the project, which is an important milestone.

Funding for Restoration: Department of Public Works and Millbrook Meadow Committee have presented a request for funding for the first phase of construction—dredging of Mill Pond—by the Community Preservation Act at Spring Town Meeting on April 2, 2016.

Membership: Members of Millbrook Meadow are Charmaine Blanchard, Shannon Mason, Barbara Sparks, Ted Tarr, Marcia Lombardo, Aileen Morrissey, Stephanie Woolf and Sam Coulbourn. Shannon continued as vice-chair, Sam chair, and Marcia treasurer. Selectmen approved the membership of Laura Hallowell on the committee on Dec. 1, 2015. Laura has served as an expert advisor on planting, and has led a project to eliminate invasive plant species, which has become a part of the restoration.

Liaison Group: The Committee formed a special liaison group to work with the Contractor and DPW. Barbara Sparks heads this effort, with Sam Coulbourn, Laura Hallowell, Eric Hutchins, Marine Biologist at NOAA, experienced local environmentalist and former chair of the Planning Board, Gunilla Caulfield, local author and long-time friend of Lura and Trustee of the Lura Hall Phillips Trust; Frank Hassler, a long-time head of the Finance Committee and expert on municipal finance, and John P. Campbell, AIA, experienced in recently completing the Community House project for the Town as Advisors.

Conservancy: Since Millbrook Meadow Committee, as a town government entity, could not serve as fund raiser, the Committee created a board for the Rockport Millbrook Meadow Conservancy. This Conservancy is an independent organization, qualified to solicit donations. The Conservancy Board works closely with Millbrook Meadow Committee to provide their individual experience and expertise in the Restoration project, associated fund raising, and stewardship of the park in the future.

Members of the Board are Dianne Anderson, formerly of the Finance Committee and many other local organizations, and long-time volunteer with Rockport Music; Tim Corrigan, Owner of Earthworks Constructors and former member of the board of Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce; Chester Clark, retired business executive, former treasurer of the Educational Founding for Rockport and volunteer for Rockport Music; Martha Jane Coulbourn, former chair of Millbrook Meadow Committee and a long-time volunteer with Rockport Chamber Music Festival; Deborah Cowan, former business executive and active in Rockport Garden Club; Karl Norwood, Founder of the Norwood Group in New Hampshire and owner of property abutting the Pond; Maura Wadlinger, retired banker and member of the Rockport Cultural Committee, and long-time volunteer with Rockport Music; Barbara Sparks, Member, Millbrook Meadow Committee, former President of Rockport Chamber Music Festival, former chair of the Planning Board; and Sam Coulbourn, ex officio.

Fund-Raising and Outreach Committee: Shannon Mason has continued as chair of the Restoration Fund Raising and Outreach subcommittee, with Charmaine Blanchard and Sam Coulbourn as members, as well as Maura Wadlinger of the Conservancy Board. Advisors are Susan J. Gray, past president of Rockport Chamber Music Festival and veteran board member of Rockport Music; and Betsy Giannoccaro, formerly fund raiser and grants coordinator for Rockport Music. The subcommittee arranged for Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF), a tax-exempt organization qualified to accept tax deductible contributions to receive donations. Several mail campaigns, assisted by a matching donation of \$25,000 by an anonymous donor, had gathered nearly \$92,000 by year's end. A listing of all donors is located on the Conservancy web site at www.millbrookmeadow.org.

In addition to mailings, the fund raising efforts have included manning booths at the annual Acoustic Festival, weekly Farmer's market events, Motif No. 1 Day and HarvestFest.

Pamela Fox, a long-time Rockport Artist, donated a painting of the Pond for fund raising. Committee and Conservancy members sold raffle tickets which yielded \$3,800 for the restoration.

In June, Rockport Music held a gala dinner in a large tent in the Meadow, featuring world-renowned cellist YoYo Ma. Rockport Music gave the Meadow a full-page color advertisement in their seasonal program book, and donated \$2,000 to the Meadow. Individuals in Rockport Music donated an additional \$10,000.



Rockport Artist Pamela Fox holds her painting, with the help of Todd Norwood, at the drawing of the raffle winner.

Master Plan: The plan for Restoration of Meadow and Pond will include these main items:

1. Dredging of the Mill Pond, removing tons of sediment collected over the years, and also much of the invasive cattails and other aquatic plants on the part of the Pond near the dam.
2. Rebuilding of the watercourse that carries water in Mill Brook to the sea. It will be widened to reduce the chances of its flooding its banks. The course will be slightly sinuous, moved back to its historic path through the Meadow to make it more favorable for fish, eels and aquatic plants. The new design will make the Brook more accessible to children, as well.
3. Where the Mill Brook passes into the Beach Street culvert en route Front Beach a headwall will be built to support the sides of the channel.
4. The old, dying willow trees have been removed and will be replaced with new, vibrant willow trees and other species.

5. The Meadow will be restored, its drainage improved and graded to reduce incidents of flooding.
6. The Meadow path will be rebuilt using pervious paving stones, and low-intensity path lighting will be installed.
7. Planting throughout the Meadow will be restored, using primarily native species, with steps already underway to eliminate invasive, alien species, like Japanese Knotweed.
8. The playground will be rebuilt.
9. The Frog Pond will be dredged and made more accessible.
10. The new course of the Mill Brook will pass through the present dogwood cluster, and that will be removed. Dogwood plantings will be relocated.
11. As the dredging in the Pond is completed footings will be installed for a board walk that will allow people to walk along both sides of the Pond and then cross over in the area near the Union Cemetery and Holbrook Court, where they can view the ducks, frogs, turtles, birds and aquatic plant life.
12. For the first time since the park has existed, a water supply will be provided so that there will no longer be a need to borrow water from neighboring businesses. Likewise, an electrical connection will be provided for use during special events in the Meadow, and for low-level, night-sky friendly overhead lighting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Samuel W. Coulbourn', written in a cursive style.

Samuel W. Coulbourn,
Chairman

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Open Space and Recreation (OSR) Committee efforts are to preserve and improve the Town of Rockport's natural environment and recreation areas.

The state-approved 2009 Rockport Open Space and Recreation Plan (2009OSRP) will require a formal update before January 1, 2017. Receiving this approval will maintain the town's eligibility to apply for several grants. Our committee has completed a general review and updated a draft of the plan. Over the next few months we will finalize the draft with the completion of an updated action list. The draft will then require public meetings and then the state's approval for acceptance through the Department of Conservation and Recreation. We are targeting submission of the plan to the state this spring.

The most significant change in the plan is in the list of parcels of interest for protection. Last year the State of Massachusetts published a new and expanded map of its Core and Critical Habitat land areas. Core Habitat areas are large, undeveloped, connected natural resource areas that must exist to support healthy natural plant and animal life. This land is emphasized by the state to be protected and maintained as open space. They look very favorably on these areas when approving grant money for land purchase. The only designated core area in Rockport is in Pigeon Cove along our shared border with Gloucester. Gloucester, along with Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA), has been working to protect their land with the North Gloucester Woods project. The changes in Core Habitat areas have been incorporated into our plan's updated draft as attributes for parcels to be protected. The former Woodland acres' subdivision was never built as was expected when 2009 plan was written. The permits have expired and its present owners are offering it as a single 50-acre piece of land. They would prefer to see the land maintained as open space. The parcel has been updated as a single piece of land and it being designated as Massachusetts Core Habitat area. That has now moved to the top of the town list for protection.

We are looking forward this year to being able to better tell the Open Space story on the town's new, improved web site. The site also includes connections to social media. This tool will allow better and new promotion of the benefits and activities related to open space and passive recreation areas in Rockport. It also has the potential to better reach new demographics groups.

We continue to record town trail data and are now working on a project to better identify and display trail condition, quality and usage. This will identify which related private parcels need protection to maintain the most important trail connections. We are also looking for possibilities of available grant money to help with trail maintenance. ECGA is aggressively working in Rockport and has come to agreement with a land owner to preserve a major trail connection in the South Woods. It is waiting state approval of Conservation Restriction. The Cape Ann Trails Association

continues to be active in town. This spring, there will be new trail head signage and mapping that they have instigated.

One of the biggest recreation concerns in the 2009 plan was the poor and unsafe access to Evans Field. This fall, the MBTA has been proceeding on some of the Rockport train yard updates and has relocated the set of train tracks that bordered the side of the field. They were constantly crossed by people using the field. The area is now open, clear of tracks and trains so that safer access can be developed.

We have four members and are now looking for a fifth member with an interest in open space planning, land protection or the town's trail system.

Our meetings are typically held on the second Monday evening of each month at the Town Hall Annex. The public is welcome to participate!

OSR Committee members:

Stephanie Cunningham – Resident
Frederick H. Tarr III– Resident

Lawrence Neal – ConCom & Chair
Peter Van Demark – Cartographer

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Neal

PARKING CLERK

The Parking Clerk position is in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 90, Section 20A and mandates that the Clerk shall supervise and coordinate the processing of parking notices and the collection of fines. The Clerk works closely with the Police Department and the seasonal Parking Enforcement Officers to ensure a fair and equitable practice of parking violations. The Clerk also serves as the Hearing Officer for the appeal of parking tickets.

This past year, the Parking Clerk continued to assist personal, telephone, and mail inquiries concerning parking regulations and violations. The Clerk's office hours are Monday thru Friday from 9:00 AM until 12:30 PM in the Lower Level of Town Hall at 34 Broadway. Payments may be made in person at the Parking Clerk's Office or at the Town Clerk's Office when the Parking Clerk's Office is closed, by mail (Parking Clerk, Town of Rockport, 34 Broadway, Rockport, MA 01966), online at www.parkingticketpayment.com/rockport or by phone (1-866-980-5363).

During 2015, a total of 3,565 violations were issued. Eighty-three Registry of Motor Vehicle certified receipts were personally issued by the Parking Clerk for payment of fines and other assessments during the year and more than double that number of electronic Registry clears. The Hearing Officer held approximately thirty formal hearings in connection with parking tickets were held during the year and about double that number of informal hearings was held by the Parking Clerk.

The Parking Clerk thanks Police Chief John Horvath, Lieutenant Schmink, Sergeant Tibert, Sergeant Frithsen, Sergeant Marino, all the Patrolmen, the Parking Enforcement Officers and the Town Clerk, Pat Brown, and Assistant Town Clerk, Linda Emerson, for their valuable cooperation and assistance this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt M. Bradley
Parking Clerk

PERSONNEL BOARD

The Personnel Board is charged with administering the Town's personnel regulations, policies and procedures for all non-union employees. The Board also recommends changes in employee compensation to the Selectmen and to Town Meeting and hears grievances for some unionized employees.

Members of the Personnel Board are Susan Crown, Tom Delaney, David Kearns, James King, and Elwin Richter. James King and Elwin Richter were re-appointed this year. David Kearns served as the Board Chair. Tom Delaney resigned from the Board in June. The Board thanks Tom for his past service as a Board member.

Among the actions taken by the Board in 2015 include the following:

- Recommended at the Annual Town meeting for FY16 a compensation budget for merit performance bonuses of \$35,000 for eligible employees who qualify for merit through the performance evaluation process.
- Reviewed and recommended language to strengthen annual performance evaluation criteria and rating scale for both the manager and staff forms.
- Compensation Schedules A through I were updated and revised.
- Continuing efforts on the complete review of all Articles in the Personnel Regulations which will continue into 2016.
- Started to administer the comprehensive benefits survey including health & welfare, retirement, time off, and work life. The Board is looking to complete the administration of the survey in 2016 by surveying comparable communities.
- Reviewed the following positions for a change in salary, classification, hours or revisions to job descriptions: Forest Fire Building Custodian, Tax Possessed Land Custodian, Election Worker, Human Resources Assistant, Human Resources Director, Community House Manager, Principal Assessor, Fire Fighter, Board of Health, and Conservation Agent.
- Susan Crown, Tom Delaney, James King, and Elwin Richter represented the Board on various employment screening panels including Police Chief, Technical Support Specialist, and Town Accountant.
- Tom Delaney represented the Board at the Town Administrator's management meetings.
- James King represented the Board regarding the Sick Leave Fund.
- No grievances were presented to the Personnel Board this year.
- The Board completed a membership recruitment letter and mailed to residents with human resources background.

The Personnel Board thanks all the dedicated employees, committee members and boards of the Town for their efforts and contributions throughout the year. Members of the Personnel Board express their gratitude to Linda Sanders, Town Administrator, and Mitch Vieira, Assistant Town Administrator, for working with the Board and Eileen Hines for her support as the Meeting Support Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Kearns, Chair

PLANNING BOARD

PLANNING BOARD work as defined by Massachusetts General Law (MGL), Chapter 41, Section 81 - The Board is charged with preparing a Master Plan designed to provide a basis for decision making regarding the long-term physical development of the Town. The Planning Board is responsible for administering the subdivision control law, which includes conducting Site Plan Review. The Board also has responsibility for holding public hearings and for making recommendations on amendments to the Zoning By-Law.

MEMBERSHIP:

The Rockport Planning Board consists of five members: Herman Lilja (Chairman), Ed Hand (Vice-Chairman), Cameron Smith (Member), Hank Betts (Member), and Terry Duffy (member). The Planning Board employs two staff members, a secretary, Mary Bourguignon, and a consulting planner, Kirk Baker, who assist the Board in carrying out its day-to-day activities.

PURPOSE:

The Planning Board is charged with the responsibility in making "careful studies" and for preparing plans which outline the resources, possibilities, and future needs of the town. It is the legislatively mandated duty of the Planning Board to oversee the periodic updating of its town-wide and downtown master plans. The Planning Board is also responsible for the review of Site Plans, Approval-Not-Required (ANR) Plans, Definitive Subdivisions, and Road Construction Plans.

To summarize its activity during the 2015 calendar year, the Planning Board:

- Held four (4) public hearings;
- Reviewed two (2) Site Plan Review applications;
- Endorsed three (3) ANR Plans;
- Researched, compiled and reviewed data for two (2) potential Zoning Bylaw amendments. The first pertained to amending procedural requirements associated with the site plan review process so that approval could be accomplished with a public meeting rather than a formal public hearing that required public notice in accordance with MGL Chapter 40A, Section 11. This was rejected by the Planning Board. The second, pertained to setting limits on maximum square footage for the construction of large houses and increased side setbacks. The Board voted unanimously to bring forward these concepts to the Fall Town Meeting for consideration by the residents;
- Held seven (7) informal discussions with applicants or potential applicants, or, to receive input from concerned citizens or from other town boards or committees.

- Hearing and meetings associated with proposed By-Law changes.

It is especially notable that the Board's on-going efforts to address the serious issue of limiting the size and scale of large houses on small lots, particularly those located on shoreline properties, came to fruition when the Board presented an article to amend the zoning bylaw at the Fall Town Meeting on September 14, 2015. This article (Article Q) placed a limit on the Gross Floor Area (GFA) of 7,000 sq. ft. on residential dwellings on lots of less than two (2) acres, a limit on GFA of 175% on new or renovated residences in relation to the mean GFA of the immediate abutters, and proposed increases in the side setbacks for dwellings with a GFA of 4,000 square feet or greater. The article was split into three parts following discussion at Town Meeting. The citizens present at the Fall Town Meeting voted a two-thirds majority to approve two of the three parts of the original article which included limiting the maximum GFA of residences on lots less than 2 acres, and increasing the setbacks for residences with more than 4,000 square feet GFA.

Not specified above is the considerable effort the Planning Board made in the first half of the 2015 calendar year, to assess where the town is in regards to its goals outlined in the 2011 Downtown Master Plan. The Planning Board requested input from other town boards as to their activities in regards to achieving some of the goals. It was concluded that more effort should be expended in collaboration between the various town boards and committees and to prioritize the goals spelled out in the master plans, so as to make achieving the goals more feasible for the various boards considering the limited resources and staff time available. It is the Planning Board's intention to continue its work to assess the current status of the goals proposed by the Town's master plans and to make updates accordingly.

It is also notable that the Planning Board meetings scheduled for the first and third Thursdays of each month, are posted public meetings and the Planning Board consistently interfaces with the citizens at every meeting and provides ample time for general discussion and public input. Furthermore, the Planning Board encourages the public to participate in its scheduled discussions that cover the many topics and issues that are relevant to land use in today's Rockport. The following is a summary of the on-going discussions the Planning Board is having amongst the members, and, with the citizens:

- How to better coordinate and collaborate with the activities between the various town boards;
- Demographic shifts and their impact on recent decreases in Rockport's population;

- How Rockport can attain the "Green Community" designation and thereby access to the grant programs;
- Alternate methods to regulating large houses on small lots, i.e. projection planes, floor area ratios, etc.;
- Site Plan Review of houses greater than 6,000 square feet;
- The issue of public access and recreational use of Rockport's shoreline.

PLANNING BOARD PROJECTS FOR 2016:

- The Board will continue ways to examine the optimization of downtown parking for the benefits of visitors and residents alike.
- The Board will continue its efforts to communicate and collaborate with other town boards and committees in order to assess the current status and implementation of the goals and recommendations of Rockport's Downtown Master Plan's as well as its town-wide Master Plan.
- We will continue efforts which address issues affecting the whole Town such as the investigation of alternative energy sources, the review of parking in the downtown, achieving more affordable housing options that would allow residents who grow up to also live here as adults.

WEBSITE:

Information about the Planning Board including meeting minutes, zoning by-laws, regulations, the Downtown Master Plan, and other useful reports can be found on the Town's website. Residents are encouraged to send comments to the Planning Board at the following address: planningboard@rockportma.gov or to call the office, 978-546-5008.

Submitted by,

Herman S. Lilja, Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT



The members of the Rockport Police Department are committed to excellence in law enforcement and are dedicated to the people, traditions, and diversity of our Town. In order to protect life and property, reduce the fear of crime, and enhance the quality of life, we will provide service with understanding, respond with compassion, and perform with integrity. These are our fundamental beliefs from which our agency sets policy, delivers service, and implements programs. Values set standards for our members in executing their public safety duties.

The department applied for and received the following grants and acquisitions in 2015:

1. 07/10/15 – 6 American Flags donated by the American Legion.
2. 08/14/15 – PSAP 911 FY16 Grant - \$21,688 for dispatcher and personnel direct labor related costs to departmental communications.
3. 09/01/15 – Unmarked emergency vehicle donated by local resident for departmental use - \$2,500.00 value.
4. 10/01/15 – EMD FY16 Grant - \$10,000.00 for dispatchers and officers continuing education training.
5. 11/01/15 – EMPG FY15 Grant (MEMA) - \$2,460.00 for electronic video wireless surveillance and monitoring equipment for investigations and homeland security measures.

Other important police department enhancements and acquisitions:

- Firearms upgrade
- Police Department Security System upgrade
- Additional Cruiser/ marked and unmarked
- Portable Breath Test Machine
- Polaris eBike (Electric Bike) (*Photo*)



Photo 1 – r: Officer Philip Wesley, Officer William Budrow, and Officer Michael Anderson with the police department's new Polaris eBike.

In early 2015, **Interim Police Chief James Mulligan** in collaboration with numerous department members, including **Lieutenant Mark Schmink** and **Elder Affairs Special Police Officer Roger Lesch** instituted a valuable wellness program, titled “Good Morning Rockport”. The purpose of the program is for participating seniors living alone to call the police dispatcher each morning, between 8 and 10 a.m., to check in. If a call is missed, an officer is sent out to the address to check on the individual’s well-being. Participation in the program has reached twenty (20) senior members and Officer Lesch continues recruitment to increase the numbers.

In May 2015, I was sworn-in as Chief of Police and was met by a supportive, engaging community and professional police department. I am pleased to say our police officers are well-trained and take pride in serving the Rockport Community. I will highlight a few initiatives of 2015 that speak to our police department’s commitment to excellence.

The Department’s Honor Guard was created in order to establish a trained, professional contingent of officers that can represent the police department and Town at local and regional ceremonial events. This unit epitomizes the pride and positive image of the Rockport Police Department, demonstrating the value we hold for our profession.

A Community Outreach Unit was developed to establish new community partnerships through meaningful interactions, while providing officers the ability

to navigate our Town in non-traditional ways, outside of the police cruiser. Lt. Schmink's previous acquisition of an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) provides officers the capability to reach remote areas of Town, as well as travel Town beaches.

The Bike Unit completed updated training to enhance safe bicycle operation, while sharpening their tactical skills. Coinciding with this training, the Department added a new piece of equipment - a Polaris eBike to expand its policing efforts in Town. Thanks to the Essex County District Attorney's Office, a Rapid Response Team Safety Model Electric Bike, engineered specifically for police use will now be available for officer deployment. The bike can reach up to 20 miles per hour with the assistance of a 750-watt motor and **Officers Philip Wesley, William Budrow, Michael Anderson, and Daniel Mahoney** are certified for patrol on the eBike.

In order to meet the needs of our community, the police department has established an anti-graffiti officer liaison position. **Officer Colleen Daniels** will lead department efforts to track, identify, and hold accountable those individuals who engage in acts of graffiti. Officer Daniels will be an important addition to the anti-graffiti task force that has focused their efforts and are doing notable work.

On October 27th, members of the police department including **Office Manager Sherry Naugler, Lt. Schmink, Sgt. Frithsen, and Officers Jason Balzarini, Budrow, Mahoney, and Wesley** in collaboration with The Rotary Club of Rockport and the Rockport Elementary School provided a Child Safety ID Kit event at the elementary school. The event provided over one hundred free ID Kits to parents and guardians that they could maintain for their child. Each ID Kit contained the child's fingerprints, an emergency information card, a growth chart, dental chart, current photograph, personal profile, physical characteristics, and a DNA sample.

The Rockport Police Association awarded two \$2,000.00 scholarships to deserving graduating seniors, as well as supported several other youth-based initiatives and programs. Contributions were also made to local families in need, the American Legion, Gloucester/Rockport Veterans Association, and Project Uplift to name a few. The Rockport Police Association is very grateful to the citizens of Rockport for their continued support.

In December, the Police Department received a medication disposal box for permanent placement in the lobby of police headquarters. The disposal box, which was provided by Addison Gilbert Hospital, a member of Lahey Health provides our community the ability to safely dispose of any unwanted medication twenty-four hours a day.

On December 22nd, the Police Department participated in the 5th Annual Turkey Dinner (*Photo*) which was organized by **Sergeant Timothy Frithsen**. Turkey dinners were served to the elementary school students in collaboration with Principal Todd Simendinger and administrative staff. The Rockport Police Association donated the turkey dinners and Table Talk Pies, Inc. donated the desserts. All leftovers were donated to a local shelter.



In 2015, **Officer Adam Ludovicz** graduated from the police academy and the police department welcomed three new members: **Permanent Intermittent Police Officers Michael Foote and Keith Militello**, as well as **Per Diem Dispatcher Rita Budrow**. They have all acclimated well to department operations and will be valuable additions to our team.

As your Police Chief and neighbor, I thank you for supporting our police department and taking the time to express your appreciation throughout the year. Our officers are some of the most dedicated I have ever had the privilege of working with and it is our honor to serve you. We look forward to a safe and enjoyable 2016!

Respectfully submitted,
John Horvath
Chief of Police

January 4, 2016

The Honorable Board of Selectmen
Town Office Building
Rockport, MA 01966

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I submit a detailed report of automobile accidents determined by this department in 2015.

MONTH	FATAL	HIT/RUN	INJURED	PEDESTRIAN	CYCLIST	TOWED	TOTAL ACCIDENTS
JANUARY	0	0	2	0	0	4	8
FEBRUARY	0	4	0	0	0	0	17
MARCH	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
APRIL	0	2	2	0	0	3	9
MAY	0	0	0	0	0	2	7
JUNE	0	1	0	0	0	2	19
JULY	0	3	0	0	1(Motor)	3	16
AUGUST	0	2	0	0	0	1	7
SEPTEMBER	0	0	0	0	1(Motor)	3	11
OCTOBER	0	0	1	1	0	2	10
NOVEMBER	0	1	0	0	0	2	3
DECEMBER	0	4	1	0	0	4	12
TOTALS	0	17	6	1	2	26	121

Respectfully submitted,

John Horvath
Chief of Police

January 4, 2016

The Honorable Board of Selectmen
Town Office Building
Rockport, MA 01966

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Parking meter collections and money received for use of the copying machine
and other revenue for the year 2015

Meter Collections:

January–March	\$	157.00
April	\$	8,504.00
May	\$	14,427.45
June	\$	29,222.90
July	\$	47,794.05
August	\$	43,677.45
September	\$	32,877.25
<u>October – December</u>	\$	<u>21,412.00</u>
TOTAL	\$	198,072.10

Copy Machine Receipts \$ 1,782.05

Parking Tickets Issued 3565 \$ 89,055.00

License To Carry and Firearms
Identification Cards Issued \$ 4,000.00

Town By-Law Violations \$ 2,845.00

Monies Collected by the Treasurer’s
Office for Private Duty Police Details \$ 7,839.77

Police Auction \$ 188.69

Respectfully submitted,
John Horvath
Chief of Police

January 4, 2016

The Honorable Board of Selectmen
Town Office Building
Rockport, MA 01966

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I submit the detailed annual report of the acts and doings of the Rockport Police Department for the year 2015.

Total Incidents Reported 10,706

Arrests 53

Additional Criminal Charges

❖ Abuse Prevention Order Violate	
❖ Annoying Phone Calls	4
❖ Assault	2
❖ Assault, Dangerous Weapon	1
❖ Assault, Domestic	3
❖ Assault and Battery	8
❖ Assault and Battery, Domestic	19
❖ Assault and Battery with Dangerous Weapon	3
❖ Assault and Battery on Person over 60	4
❖ Assault and Battery on a Police Officer	6
❖ Attaching Plates	1
❖ Attempt to Commit Crime	1
❖ Breaking and Entering Dwelling, Daytime	2
❖ Break into Depository	3
❖ Credit Card Fraud	4
❖ Disorderly Conduct	2
❖ Fail to Register Sex Offender	1
❖ Fail to Stop for Police	1
❖ Forgery	4
❖ Identity Fraud	3
❖ Indecent Exposure	1
❖ Intimidate a Witness	4
❖ Junior Operator Violation	2
❖ Larceny from Building	2
❖ Larceny by Check	2
❖ Larceny over \$250.00	16
❖ Larceny under \$250.00	4

❖ Leaving Scene of Property Damage	1
❖ Malicious Destruction of Property	4
❖ Minor in Possession of Alcohol	3
❖ Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle	9
❖ Obscene Matter to Minor	2
❖ Operating After Suspension of License	12
❖ Operating Revoked/Suspended Registration	6
❖ Operating Under the Influence-Alcohol	5
❖ Operating Uninsured MV	5
❖ Operating Unlicensed	19
❖ Possession of Class D Less Than One Ounce	4
❖ Possession of Open Container in Motor Vehicle	3
❖ Possession of Burglarious Tools	1
❖ Protective Custody	8
❖ Receiving Stolen Property	2
❖ Resisting Arrest	3
❖ Shoplifting	2
❖ Strangulation	1
❖ Threats to Commit a Crime	3
❖ Uttering	4
❖ Warrant Arrests	13

Incidents

❖ Motor Vehicles Towed	43
❖ E-911 Calls Received	1430
❖ E-911 Hang-ups	55
❖ D.P.W. Notified	208
❖ Utility Company Notified	83
❖ Medical Emergency	517
❖ Security Alarms Activated	268
❖ Vandalism	60
❖ Fire Calls Sounded	238
❖ Reports Received	1736
❖ Lost and Found Turned In	200
❖ Burglary	4
❖ Domestic Violence Responses	84
❖ Motor Vehicle Lockouts	84
❖ Motor Vehicles Disabled	71
❖ Assist Citizen	960
❖ Animal Reports Received	305
❖ Larceny	64
❖ Summons Served	55
❖ Noise Complaints	117

❖	Police Escort Provided	18
❖	Restraining Orders	56
❖	Civil Harassment Orders	12
❖	Building Check	1742
❖	Town By-Law Violations	79
❖	No Trespass Orders	10
❖	Abandoned Motor Vehicle	4
❖	Assault	8
❖	Assist Other Agency	265
❖	Building Unsecured	15
❖	Erratic Operator	17
❖	Missing Persons	14
❖	Annoying Phone Calls	157
❖	Police Wellness Check/Response	344
❖	Sex Offenses	2
❖	Shoplifting	2
❖	Auto Theft	1
❖	School Services	246
❖	Suspicious Activity	96
❖	Senior Watch	37
❖	Well Being Checks	110
❖	Wires Down	52

Motor Vehicles:

❖	Stopped By Cruiser	861
❖	Civil Citation Issued	71
❖	Written Warnings Issued	186
❖	Criminal Citations	25
❖	Verbal Warnings	579
❖	Illegally Parked Motor Vehicle	268

Respectfully submitted,

John Horvath
Chief of Police

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Recreation Department sponsors programs to a wide cross section of our community. Our Department services residents ranging from 5 years old to 85 years young.

We want all of our citizens to have the opportunity to participate; by offering quality programs for a reasonable fee. The Recreation Department encourages diversity and our programs are ADA accessible.

Our year round Exercise Program has expanded greatly, but our most popular program continues to be senior fitness; Forever Fit is fortunate to be led by Elizabeth Reed with a very loyal following. She is also putting together a Senior Boot Camp. We look forward to this.

We have added some additional fun exercise and recreation activities too. Adult Indoor Basketball continues to be a big hit with sessions running in both the fall and spring.

We also began Pickle Ball this past year for adults and this quickly gained popularity with the adults in this community thanks to Sandra and Erin Caniff.

Each winter we sponsor youth basketball. This is for boys and girls from grade 1 to grade 6. Each Saturday in the winter you can find over eighty-five children participating in this terrific program. Phil Whitley is in his second year of directing this program. We are pleased with the turn out in numbers and the direction the program has taken. This year we have joined in part with a Gloucester Youth Basketball group. Of course, the children are excited to have this Saturday activity! We are even playing on Friday nights. The program would not be a success without the great number of high school volunteers who participate faithfully each week.



Come spring, we sponsor Tee-Ball for our younger grade school children. A variety of folks will be involved in helping out this year. I have been directing this program myself now and we are making some significant changes this spring.

Our Tennis program continues to blossom. This year, we had a change in Directors for the first time in several years. Kelly Caniff came this summer with a vast well of experience to draw upon as she is a college and high school coach. We are hoping that Bailey See, our long time director will be back at least part time this coming summer.

Each summer you will find many of our children still attending school. However, it is to attend our Summer Fun Program at Rockport Elementary School. The children of Rockport come and participate in a wide variety of games, sports, arts, crafts, and outdoor activities. This program serves children going into grades one through five.

Middle School Blast is now going into its third year and we are thrilled with the participation of our middle schoolers. We have kayaking, paddle boarding and basketball for our young teenagers to participate in all summer. It is quite the site to see 40 young people come blasting into the Rockport harbor.

Swim was back again with a great splash! We had Chandra Contrino return as the director and we had a fantastic turn out. Children ages 3 to 11 were instructed in swim at Front Beach. Next summer we hope to bring back our full American Red Cross Certificate Program.

The Recreation Department is grateful for the opportunity to serve this community. We must thank everyone involved as we are fortunate to have such great support that we have. Volunteers are still one of the backbones of our programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Marshall



RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

The Rights of Way Committee (ROW) had a busy 2015. During the summer, we donated two new benches to Middle Wharf. In addition, we procured a grant from the Department of Massachusetts Fisheries for work to be done on the Atlantic Path. Our spring and fall cleanup days have proven to be a success and we have put the Sunday hikes on the Town Calendar on the website. With this resource, new people have learned about walking the trails.

Also, Vice-Chair Tom Mikus has revamped the ROW section of the new town website.

The Rights of Way Committee meets on the fourth Monday of each month at Town Hall, Conference Room A at 7:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tom Kearns, Chair



*Rights of Way Committee (L-R): Vice-Chair Tom Mikus,
Lori Morrow, Chair Tom Kerans & Phil Morrow*

Not pictured: Mary Devaney and Jill Solomon

ROCKPORT COMMUNITY HOUSE

Rentals are broken into three time periods (morning, afternoon, evening) and use of the kitchen. Rockport residents are charged \$50 per time period and \$50 for use of the kitchen. Community organizations represented by Rockport residents are not charged.

In total, there were 189 rentals. Some rentals included multiple time periods and use of the kitchen.

Of the 189 rentals:

- 126 rentals were 1-time paid uses by Rockport residents (\$10,850 in revenues) and
- 63 rentals were unpaid uses by 18 Community Organizations represented by Rockport residents.

Of the 18 Community Organizations rentals, 5 organizations rented the facility multiple times in 2015:

American Red Cross (2)	Rockport Div. Chamber of Commerce (1)
Anchorage Homeowners Assoc. (1)	Rockport Garden Club (6)
Cape Ann Shakespeare Troupe (18)	Rockport Middle School Drama (1)
Friends of the Rockport Library (1)	Rockport Music (1)
New Year's Eve Inc. (1)	Rockport Police Association (1)
Ocean Ledges Association (1)	St. Joachim's Holy Family Parish (8)
Old Garden Beach Assoc. (1)	Sandy Bay Historical Society (1)
Rockport Ambulance (1)	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Comm. (1)
Rockport Democratic Committee (1)	Theater in the Pines (16)

Most organization rentals are for meetings. Rentals by Cape Ann Shakespeare Troupe and Theater in the Pines are for both rehearsals and productions offered to the public. Additional breakdown of rental details for both paid and unpaid uses are available upon request.

We are grateful to the Rockport Garden Club for their dedication to designing and maintaining the Community House's lovely gardens.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Balzarini

Facilities Manager, Rockport Community House

ROCKPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Overview

We are excited about expanding our services in 2015 to additional programming for adults, young adults, and children. Policies have also been revised to ensure that all of our services are free and available to all citizens of Rockport.

In 2015, the library circulated 68,979 items. Our meeting rooms (including some programs that were offered offsite) were used by community groups and library programs a total of 821 times. The library offered 282 adult programs, 5 young adult programs, and 84 children's programs. Our staff answered 10,728 reference questions asked by children, teens and adults. Databases were used over 73,000 times and our Overdrive Downloadable E-book, audio book, and new movie collection circulation increased from 2,604 in 2014 to 3,575 in 2015.

Personnel

During 2015, the Rockport Public Library staff was busy serving the informational needs of the citizens of the town and surrounding communities. I started working at the library in January and have enjoyed being part of an incredibly talented and dedicated staff. It has been wonderful getting to know so many people from the community.

Staff members were the key to the services and programs provided to the community throughout the year. Their work ethic, dedication, and positive attitude have made this year of transition one of excitement and possibility.

In addition, we sincerely thank the volunteers who regularly give their time and effort to help maintain the library and its services. They helped prepare books, DVDs, and CDs for circulation, while weeding out older items to make room for new acquisitions. In the Junior Department, volunteers assisted with a variety of tasks and special events and in the Rockport Room they assist patrons with searches and special projects as needed.

Our Trustees Rob Audano, Chair; Holly Frithsen, Secretary; and Lana Razdan meet at least once a month and work hard to support and guide library services, and provide oversight for the budget. They are always available to advise and assist on any library matter as needed.

Collaborative and Community Support

During the year, we worked with the DPW on repairing the sewer line under the local history room, overseeing application of a sealant on the east side of the building, removing and controlling a mold outbreak in the lower level, and replacing the fire escapes.

Using gift funds, the library purchased display shelving and signage to help patrons find some of the wonderful materials the library has to offer.

The library was also very fortunate to receive several donations this year that have enhanced our services.

- Thanks to a donation from the Cape Ann Savings Bank the library was able to purchase two defibrillators which are available on the main and upper levels of the building.
- A donation from the Daughters of the American Revolution enabled the library to purchase additional print materials for the Local History collection.
- Card holders for library cards were purchased thanks to a donation from the Institution for Savings.
- A gift from a Rockport resident allowed us to start a collection of “Great Courses”. This DVD and audio book collection has been a wonderful addition to the collection.

Thanks to the hard work of many volunteers from the Rockport Garden Club, the beautiful gardens were enjoyed by many citizens and visitors. This year the winter storms damaged many of the plants around the library, but the time and talents of this great group had the gardens cleaned up and looking as good as new. The Rockport Garden Club also donated two trash bins for the back garden, which has helped keep trash cleanup to a minimum.

Adult Programs

We showed many films and hosted wonderful authors including Deborah Cramer, author of *The Narrow Edge*, Charlotte Gordon, author of *Romantic Outlaws*, Roland Merullo, author of *Dinner with Buddha*, Bonnie Marson, author of *Sleeping with Schubert* and Paul St. Germain author of *Cape Ann Granite*. Many folks enjoyed the local author night which included Suellen Wedmore, Candace Waldron, Mark Carlotto, Sarah Clark, Joseph N. Muzio, and John & Betty Erkkila.

During the summer, we offered a creative writing workshop led by Jim Scrimgeour. In November, the library participated in National Novel Writing Month by providing a quiet space, snacks and support.

We also extended our winter movies to a year round series where we show classic films during the week and new releases on the weekend.

New this year, we also offered a summer reading program for adults where adults were encouraged to read a variety of books. For each book read and rated adults were eligible for a weekly prize donated by a local business.

Children’s Programs

The Children’s Room was extremely busy! Story times on Tuesday mornings provide a great experience for families and an opportunity to visit the

Children's Room during the day. We also provided a fun summer reading challenge with many programs for all ages.

In August, the library collaborated with the schools, Cape Ann Museum and Pathways to present a Countdown to Kindergarten program which prepared children for school and introduced them to the library.

In the fall, the library began offering programs during early release days, which was a wonderful success. Children's Librarian Carol Bender has also begun providing outreach to local preschools offering a story time and introduction to library services.

Teen Programs

This year for young adults, we again offered a summer reading program that offered prizes donated by Top Dog of Rockport, Brothers Brew, Helmut's Strudel, Seaside Pizza, and The Ice Cream Store. We also started a Teen Advisory Board that encouraged local young adults to direct what types of services and programs the library offers. As a result, we are working to create a teen space on the main level and have offered some teen programs including a movie night and a Minecraft workshop.

Policies

The staff and trustees also reviewed the library policies and decided that it was important to be sure that all library services are free and open to all Rockport citizens. As a result, the rental fee and age limits on videos were removed. The number of DVDs that can be borrowed at one time was changed from three to seven.

Friends of the Library

Many thanks go to the members of the Friends who spend countless hours sorting and moving books for their summer, fall, and winter sales. Their generosity and dedicated volunteer efforts are deeply appreciated.

The guest speaker at the Friends Annual Meeting was sportswriter Bob Ryan. Registration for the event filled up quickly making this one of the year's highest attended events.

Most of our programs are funded by the generous support of the Friends of the Rockport Public Library, who work tirelessly to support our library. The Friends purchased a disc buffer, an online calendar for the website and a museum pass reservation system, a telescope, and funded many wonderful programs.

They continue to provide the following museum passes for the public to enjoy:

- Children's Museum in Boston
- Historic New England
- Isabella Stewart Gardner
- Museum of Fine Arts

- Museum of Science
- New England Aquarium
- Peabody Essex Museum
- Salem Witch Museum
- Wenham Museum

Patrons can call to reserve passes or access the remote sign-up on our website. In 2015, patrons reserved 354 museum passes.

Services

We shifted the collections on the main level to remove some shelving that was damaged and to create a space for a teen fiction collection. This was in response to requests made by Rockport teens who want to have a designated space within the library.

The library now hosts library Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages to promote programs and services. We also started a monthly online newsletter using Constant Contact. Patrons can sign up for this service by going to our website or calling us at 978-546-6934. We continue to list our programs and events on our website at www.rockportlibrary.org. Patrons can order library materials from home through the Evergreen software and access many electronic resources. The statewide databases including the Encyclopedia Britannica now support geo-location so Massachusetts patrons can access them even without a library card.

The library also offers Rockport citizens access to several online resources, many of which were added this year.

- Ancestry.com Library Edition – A genealogy research tool that includes the U.S. Census, U.S. Data Collection, UK & Ireland Collection, and Immigration Collection.
- American Ancestors – Conduct genealogical research, take online seminars, and search their online library catalog of books, 19th century newspapers, periodicals, microform materials, and manuscripts.
- HeritageQuest - Search the U.S. Census, Periodical Source Index (PERSI), Revolutionary War Pension Records, Freedman's Bank Records.
- Safari Books Online - on-demand digital library providing more than 38,000 technologies, digital media, and business books and videos online.
- Tumblebooks - Picture books, stories, and chapter books, read aloud for young children.

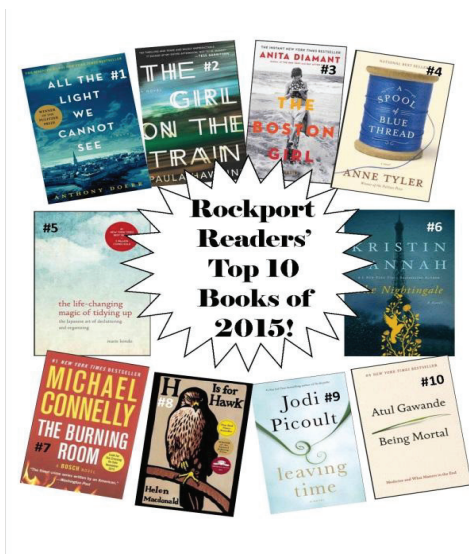
- OverDrive – A consortium wide resource that provides free ebooks, downloadable audio books and movies. The Rockport Library purchases additional titles available only to Rockport citizens.
- Universal Class - Offers over 500 courses ranging from accounting and nutrition to reiki and gardening. The classes are self-paced and instructor-led, with certified instructors available to answer questions and assess your performance. Universal class is accredited as an authorized provider by the International Association for Continuing Education & Training (IACET), giving the option for CEUs on approved courses.

The library staff and trustees work diligently to constantly improve collections and services and we appreciate your ideas and suggestions. We thank all our citizens who are tremendously supportive and who value education, learning and reading.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Grove

Library Director with support of the Trustees



THACHER & STRAITSMOUTH ISLAND TOWN COMMITTEE

The Thacher and Straitsmouth Island Town Committee consist of 12 citizens of the Town of Rockport who are charged with the oversight, maintenance and upkeep of the Islands at the behest of the Board of Selectmen. The Committee includes Bill Cardani, Seth Cutter, Carol Delaney, David Delaney, Paula Eldridge, C. Thomas Eldridge, Lee Marr, Richard Morris, Ray Moss, Frederick Tarr III, Sydney Wedmore, and Gail Zeman.

The Thacher and Straitsmouth Island Town Committee works in collaboration with Paul St Germain and the 12-member Board of Directors of the Thacher Island Association who are charged with raising funds.

Thacher Island was opened on May 30, 2015 and closed on September 19, 2015. During this period of time, the Principal Keepers were Jeanette Haynes, John and Darlene Fulton. They oversaw the activities and work of the 25 Assistant and Intern Keepers. Those Keepers included:

Ann Patrice Hickey, Lynn Chambers, Dewey & Camille Glick, Diane & Gary Johnson, Dick Whittaker & Nancy Jaretz, Donna Cusick, Ian & Margie Deweese-Boyd, Joe Napolitano & Peggy Flanagan, Linda Bosselman, David & Sharron Cohen, Patty Wegmann & Paul Sena, Syd & Suellen Wedmore, Wayne & Anita Smith, David Murphy, Ray and Liz Pszeny.

These Keepers and Assistant Keepers oversaw the visitation of 1,981 visitors to the Island – 689 who came by kayak, 415 came by the Thacher Island Launch and the remainder by private boat.

This activity generated approximately \$7,364 in revenue that was turned over to the General Fund for the Town of Rockport. The Town of Rockport budget for Thacher Island was approximately \$19,000 which included \$6,000 for fuel, \$9,000 for operating the boat, and \$4,000 for maintenance and materials.

The Thacher Island Association provided over \$135,000 for maintenance and restoration projects in 2015.

The cadre of 56 Thacher volunteer workers put in over 2,900 man hours on Wednesdays and Saturdays over the 22-week season.

Major accomplishments this year were:

1. The Thacher Island Association purchased and donated to the Town of Rockport a new 24 ft. aluminum hull boat to replace the 30-year old Thacher Island One. The new boat can accommodate 16 ft

length lumber and is wheelchair accessible. The value of this craft is \$68,770.

2. Reshingling of the Assistant Keepers “L.”
3. Replanking of the western section of the tramway and rebuilding a portion of the eastern section.
4. Completion of the rebuilding of the cistern infrastructure and partial replacement of roof sheathing was begun

Additional accomplishments were installation of a weather station on Thacher Island, providing local weather including wind, temperature, and gusts. The iron stairwell on the North Tower was repainted and rope safety rails were placed in both the North and South Tower. An auto play video with the Thacher Island history was installed in the Museum to enhance the visitor experience. The volunteer crew from General Electric removed 15 yards of demolition and 100 damaged lobster traps from the Island.

On Straitsmouth Island the cisterns were cleaned out and found usable. A surveillance web cam was installed on the Oil House to provide surveillance of the house and the central trail was recut and widened.

Special groups out to the Island were the Fish and Wildlife for a two-day egg count and volunteers from GE for one day and Coastal Discoveries Youth group, Youth Service Corps Volunteers among others.

Next year the main focus will be working on Straitsmouth Island to improve safe access to the Island; interior renovation of the Keepers House by Joe Napolitano of Napco Builders; construction of a storage building on Straitsmouth to replace the collapsed barn; the purchase of a new Kubota tractor for Straitsmouth Island; installation of a second web camera on the Tower to provide surveillance of the seal resting areas on the tip of the Island.

This year the CPC voted to approve and the Town endorsed a \$50,000 grant for Straitsmouth for further rehab of the buildings and the Island infrastructure. These funds will be accessed in 2016.

As always, the Committee wishes to thank the citizens of Rockport for their continued support and is always looking for new volunteers to help.

Submitted by,

Sydney M. Wedmore, MD

Chairman, Thacher and Straitsmouth Island Town Committee

TOWN ART COMMITTEE

The Town Art Committee continues to complete the conservation on painting under the Community Preservation Grant.

Dorothy Marshall joined the committee in 2016, bringing an art background and communication marketing skills to the team.

The Town gratefully accepted work donated by Betty Wiberg and family. A pen and ink drawing of the Sea Scout boat by Ms. Wiberg and a watercolor by her father Charles Allenbrook, Sandy Bay Yacht Club (images below).

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Berger, Chair

Bryan McMullin

Dorothy Marshall

Rosemary Pillarella



Pen & Ink Drawing by Betty Wiberg



Painting by Charles Allenbrook

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ROCKPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

for the year ending

DECEMBER 31, 2015



Rockport School Committee	S2
Rockport Community Education Center	S2
School Officials, Office Locations, Telephones	S2
Overview of the School Year	S3 & S4
MCAS/PARCC Report & Accountability Information	S5 & S6
Student Enrollment Information	S6
Rockport Elementary School	S7 & S8
Rockport Middle School	S8, S9, & S10
Rockport High School	S10, S11, S12 & S13
Athletic Program	S13 & S14
Special Education	S14 & S15
Community Schools	S15
Community Involvement in the Schools	S15 & S16
Teacher Salary Schedules	S16
Changes in Faculty	S17
Graduating Class of 2015	S18
Professional Staff Listing	S19

ORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Martha Morgan, Chairman	Term expires 2017
Susan Brisson, Vice-Chair	Term expires 2016
Colleen Coogan	Term expires 2017
Heather Nelson	Term expires 2018
Rebecca Sly	Term expires 2018

Regular meetings of the School Committee are held in the High School/Middle School Library, 26 Jerden's Lane, on Wednesdays, starting at 7:00 p.m., as posted. Members of the community are requested to notify the Superintendent of Schools by the Wednesday, preceding any posted regular meeting, if they wish to bring a matter to the attention of the Committee. Public participation on any agenda item is welcomed at any meeting.

ROCKPORT COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER

24 Jerden's Lane
Rockport, MA 01966
TEL 978-546-1200 X1
FAX 978-546-1205
www.rpk12.org

SUPERINTENDENT	Robert Liebow 24 Jerden's Lane 978-546-1200 X1
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES	Lindsey McGovern 32 Jerden's Lane 978-546-1210
HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL	Gregg Bach 24 Jerden's Lane 978-546-1234 HS 978-546-1250 MS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL	Todd Simendinger 34 Jerden's Lane 978-546-1220
DIRECTOR OF IS & TECHNOLOGIES	Monty Hitschler 24 Jerden's Lane 978-546-1200

DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Thomas Budrow
34 Jerden's Lane
978-546-1200

SCHOOL PHYSICIAN

Jeffrey Stockman
289 Washington St.
Gloucester
978-283-5079

FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR

MarthaJo Fleming
24 Jerden's Lane
978-546-1200

AN OVERVIEW OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN ROCKPORT

2015 Report from the Superintendent of Schools

I find it very exciting to be making my fourth annual report to all of you regarding the status of the Rockport Public Schools and the high quality of education it provides our young people. I am proud to say that the educational system in our town is continuing to improve with each passing year and has maintained itself as a source of great pride to the children we serve, their parents and the greater community at large. Our students benefit immensely from a school program and culture that is enriched, supported and made possible by a generous and caring community, for this we thank you!

Over the last year our teachers and administrators have been working diligently on a number of major projects and programs. The most notable of these initiatives has centered on the second year implementation of our new K-5 Envisions Math program. This cutting edge program is aligned with the Common Core Standards and has a highly engaging technological component that allows parents to work closely with their children while at home as they acquire new skills in this vital area of our curriculum as an extension to the regular classroom experience. This year we were also able to add the services of a district Math Specialist with Jodi Goodhue moving from her 6th grade math position to assume this new role. Ms. Goodhue works closely with our elementary school teachers and offers support and provides professional development as they hone their instructional skills and diagnostic assessment tools. Another major effort that is underway this year is the institution of the new PBIS (Positive Intervention and Supports) program in all of our schools. Our two school psychologists, Mysha Kuhlmann and Jaime Nichols are to be commended for their efforts to bring this program to Rockport and to have successfully led our staff in embracing the principles of this program that centers on overall school climate improvement based on positive reinforcement,

recognition, character development and student leadership.

In the area of curriculum review, revision and alignment, we have taken great strides with the hiring of Gregg Bach as our new Middle/High School Principal and District Director of Curriculum and Instruction. Gregg directly oversees and coordinates all of our efforts in this vital area working side by side with RES Assistant Principal/Curriculum director Heather Castonguay and our slate of Faculty Curriculum Liaisons. Providing professional development in the techniques of differentiated instruction will be our next major focus and plans are now being developed to deliver meaningful professional development workshops for our teachers in this area during our opening days next summer prior to the start of the 2016-2017 school year. Additionally, if budgetary constraints allow, we are hopeful to be able to reinstitute World Language instruction back into the elementary school curriculum, a program that has been absent since it was cut during tough financial times approximately eight years ago. We are also striving to find a way to strengthen our overall health and wellness program in the lower grades by expanding our staffing levels and curriculum in this area that is so important to forming the foundation for a strong wellbeing for each individual student giving them the opportunity to maximize their potential as learners in all subject areas.

We are also very fortunate to have hired Lindsey McGovern as our new Director of Special Services and pleased to announce that she has bought a home in our community. Lindsey comes to us from the Natick Public Schools and has an extensive background in program development and accountability. She is eager to continue the efforts that have been underway to implement a Co-teaching model for delivering better instruction to our students with special needs. In addition, Lindsey is working hard to develop programs that would allow our special needs students, who are presently in out of district placements, to remain in our school district to receive their education with their age appropriate peers. I am also pleased to report that Todd Simendinger has made a very successful transition from assistant principal at the Middle/High School to the role of Principal at Rockport Elementary School. Todd has done a tremendous job reorganizing and revitalizing many of the systems and procedures in place along with generating a new spirit of cooperation and positive school climate at the elementary school. In addition to our administrative hires, we have also been fortunate to obtain the services of several new teachers this school year that have brought tremendous enthusiasm, excitement, knowledge and skills to our classrooms throughout the district. I am a firm believer that putting the best, brightest, most talented and most passionate adults in front of our young people and in charge of our schools is the quickest and most important route to the greatest improvements in our educational system.

The implementation of our new Staff Evaluation Process for all of our employees

is now in its third year. All of our teachers are now fully involved in a two-year cycle of review, reflection and goal setting based on administrative observations and the results of student feedback on their practice. We continue to develop our District Determined Measures (DDMs) that will determine a teacher's overall impact on student learning. This new system has served to develop a positive and collegial atmosphere that is working towards generating meaningful dialogue and commitment towards improvements in both teaching and administrative practices.

During the budget development process last spring the schools, the town's Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen worked hard to develop a funding model for the schools that would assure the forward movement and sustainability of the schools while taking into account the financial needs of other town departments given the limited monetary resources we have available each year. A model was agreed to that called for the school system to make all efforts to hold their budgetary increases to a yearly figure of 3% or less with the town striving to provide for a 2.3% increase in annual base funding. In this format, it was felt that the schools would be able to continue on the path towards excellence while at the same time being able to predict the need for, the size and the overall frequency of periodic tax cap overrides of a moderate size. We are very hopeful that both the schools and the town can make this model a reality going forward in time.

We are very thankful for the funds appropriated for capital improvement of our school buildings and grounds. This past year we were able to continue the replacement of worn out floor coverings in all of the schools, continue the renovation and upgrades to our school bathrooms and to replace the deteriorated school lockers in the high school. In addition, we were very fortunate to receive funding from the Community Preservation Fund to resurface the basketball courts at the elementary school that are used by so many young children both during the school year and over the summer months.

Last spring, we were fortunate to be able to purchase the Pathways modular classrooms located between the two main school buildings. At this time I am leading fundraising efforts to build a greenhouse addition to the structure and to convert the entire space into a Health and Wellness Sustainability Center to serve the environmental educational needs of students from K-12 and extend those opportunities and experiences to the greater community of Rockport. I have also formed a building study committee to brainstorm ideas for how we could best address the present and future space needs issues for our music, theater, science and athletic programs.

The Schools are fortunate to receive a high level of taxpayer support. We are also deeply grateful to the Rockport Parents and Teachers Organization, the

Friends of Rockport Athletics, the Rockport Educational Foundation, the Rockport Rotary Club, the Rockport Art Association, and Rockport Music for the continued support of our school programs. The contributions of these great organizations provide the vital resources necessary to supplement our programs and improve our school facilities allowing us to best meet the needs of the students we serve.

I thank you for the trust you have placed in our schools and for the support you have given to us both personally and financially to help us achieve our goal of providing our students with a world class education. Please feel free to contact me by any means if I can be of assistance or answer any questions whatsoever. Working together we can make the Rockport Public Schools the best that they can possibly be.

Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System

The following are the results of MCAS tests that were given to students in grades 3 through 10. All high school seniors in the class of 2015 passed the MCAS test, which is now a requirement to receive a high school diploma.

		<u>MCAS TESTS OF SPRING 2015</u>				Students Included
Grade/ Subject		A	P	NI	W/F	
		(PERCENT)				
5	Science and Technology	22	37	37	5	65
8	Science and Technology	4	47	46	3	90
10	English Language Arts	49	48	3	0	75
10	Mathematics	58	25	16	1	77
10	Science/Technology/Eng	42	44	14	0	72

A = Advanced P = Proficient NI = Needs Improvement W = Warning (Failure)

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY INFORMATION

The Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) is designed to meet the requirements of the Education Reform Law of 1993. This law specifies that the testing program must

- test all public school students in Massachusetts, including students with disabilities and English Language Learner students;
- measure performance based on the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework learning standards;
- report on the performance of individual students, schools, and districts.

As required by the Education Reform Law, students must pass the grade 10 tests in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and one of the four high school Science and Technology Engineering tests as one condition of eligibility for a high school diploma (in addition to fulfilling local requirements).

In addition, the MCAS program is used to hold schools and districts accountable, on a yearly basis, for the progress they have made toward the objective of the No Child Left Behind Law that all students be proficient in Reading and Mathematics by 2014.

Massachusetts' accountability system measures each school and district's progress toward the goal of reducing proficiency gaps by half between the 2010-11 and 2016-17 school years. Massachusetts uses the Progress and Performance Index (PPI) and school percentiles to classify schools into one of five accountability and assistance levels. Schools making sufficient progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps are classified into Level 1, while the state's lowest performing schools are classified into Levels 4 and 5. In general, districts are classified into a level based on the level of their lowest performing school.

Rockport Elementary School	Title I School	Level 2
Rockport Middle School	Non-Title I School	Level 2
Rockport High School	Non-Title I School	Level 1

PARCC TESTS OF SPRING 2015

The 2015-16 school year will mark the end of Massachusetts' two-year test drive of PARCC, an assessment developed in collaboration with a group of states looking to measure how students are performing academically based on more rigorous college- and career-ready standards. Massachusetts is a member of PARCC's governing board, and Massachusetts educators were deeply involved in developing the assessment. The Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education will decide whether to adopt PARCC or pursue other means of updating the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System

(MCAS) test.

PARCC Tests of Spring 2015

Percent of Students at Each Achievement Level for Rockport

Data Last Updated on November 10, 2015

Grade and Subject	Level 4 and 5 %		Level 5 %		Level 4 %		Level 3 %		Level 2 %		Level 1 %		Avg Scaled Score	Number of Students Included	Trans. CPI		Trans. Student Growth Percentile (SGP)	
	DIS %	STA TE	DIS %	STA TE	DIS %	STA TE	DIS %	STA TE	DIS %	STA TE	DIS %	STA TE			#	Mean	#	Median
GRADE 3 ELA/L	80	54	16	7	64	47	14	22	6	14	0	10	772	64	65	95.0	--	--
GRADE 3 Math	68	55	13	12	56	43	21	25	10	14	2	6	761	63	64	93.8	--	--
GRADE 4 ELA/L	83	57	35	15	48	42	14	25	3	12	0	5	778	65	65	90.8	64	78.0
GRADE 4 Math	42	48	3	6	38	41	40	29	15	18	3	5	744	65	65	76.5	64	34.0
GRADE 5 ELA/L	76	63	6	8	70	55	21	23	3	10	0	4	766	66	68	94.9	64	48.0
GRADE 5 Math	54	55	8	11	46	44	27	26	17	15	2	5	752	63	65	83.1	60	55.0
GRADE 6 ELA/L	78	60	27	12	51	48	21	25	1	11	0	4	773	82	82	96.3	78	79.0
GRADE 6 Math	70	53	17	10	52	44	22	28	9	14	0	5	763	82	82	91.5	79	67.0
GRADE 7 ELA/L	76	61	36	21	40	40	18	22	5	11	1	6	773	78	79	94.0	71	59.0
GRADE 7 Math	51	45	12	8	40	37	35	32	14	18	0	4	753	78	79	78.8	73	70.0
GRADE 8 ELA/L	71	64	19	16	52	48	24	20	4	10	0	5	770	90	91	98.1	89	74.0
GRADE 8 Math	47	53	9	10	38	43	23	22	26	15	3	10	750	91	91	74.5	90	67.0
GRADES 3-8 ELA/L	77	60	23	13	53	47	19	23	4	12	0	6	772	445	450	95.1	366	68.0
GRADES 3-8 MATH	55	52	10	10	45	43	28	27	16	16	2	6	754	442	446	82.7	366	60.0

Achievement Levels:

Level 4 and 5: Met or Exceeded

Expectations (750-850)

Level 5: Exceeded Expectations (varies by grade - 850)

Level 4: Met Expectations (750 - varies by grade)

Level 3: Approached Expectations (725-749)

Level 2: Partially met Expectations (700-724)

Level 1: Did not meet Expectations (650-699)

Trans.SGP = Transitional Student Growth Percentile generated using current PARCC and prior MCAS scores

Trans.CPI = Transitional Composite Performance Index generated using linked PARCC and MCAS scores

NOTE: Since only a portion of students in grades 3-8 participated in 2015 PARCC in ELA/L and Mathematics, a representative sample of students from a cross Massachusetts was used to estimate student achievement at the state level in those subjects.

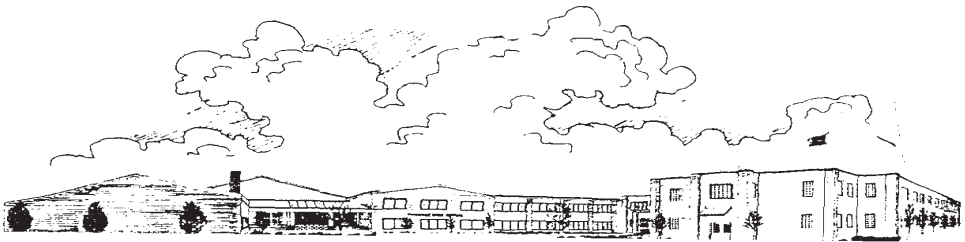
NOTE: Students who took the Alternate Assessment are included in Mean CPI, but not in achievement level or growth results.

ENROLLMENT - OCTOBER 1, 2015

<u>Elementary School</u>		<u>Middle School</u>		<u>High School</u>	
Pre-K	14	Grade 6	78	Grade 9	78
Kindergarten	69	Grade 7	79	Grade 10	68
Grade 1	60	Grade 8	<u>78</u>	Grade 11	80
Grade 2	65		235	Grade 12	<u>77</u>
Grade 3	68				303
Grade 4	71				
Grade 5	<u>71</u>				
	418				

Total Public School students enrolled as of January 2015: 741

Number of students in Rockport Public Schools (not including choice)	741
Number of students in from other districts (School Choice)	225
Number of students in special needs placements (out of district)	5
Number of students in special needs placements (public schools)	2
Number of Students in Non-SPED Placements	0
Number of students in other public schools (School Choice)	31
Number of students in private schools	48
Number of students at Essex NS Agricultural & Technical School	14
Number of students in home schooling programs	9
Total number of school-age children residing in Rockport	850



ROCKPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Rockport Elementary School currently services 416 children Pre-Kindergarten through fifth grade. This year saw the addition of a fourth kindergarten classroom, bringing the building total to 19 grade level classrooms. We are fortunate to offer a variety of courses, which include Music, Art, Physical Education, Technology, and Library. Additionally, the Elementary School offers a wide variety of after school activities in the arts, sciences, technology, and foreign language.

Current Grade Level Enrollment:

Pre-K	14
Kindergarten	69
Grade 1	60
Grade 2	65
Grade 3	68
Grade 4	70
Grade 5	71

Rockport Elementary School welcomes two new faculty members:

Nicole Pizzimenti, Kindergarten

Jodi Goodhue, Math Coach (K-8)

The primary focus this year at Rockport Elementary School is the continued implementation of the new math program, in addition to beginning our first year utilizing PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports). This year, with the support of the new Math Coach, our focus is on identifying and supporting instructional needs. The focus of PBIS is developing and teaching school-wide behaviors and expectations. With the implementation of PBIS, the Elementary School has seen a 30% reduction in student discipline referrals from last year, along with a significant improvement in school culture.

With the assistance of the Rockport Police and Fire Departments, the Elementary School revised and implemented a new school safety plan. These changes included a redesign of school evacuation procedures, new fire drill procedures, and a restructuring of morning drop-off procedures. All of these changes, in addition to the supporting professional development for staff, have created a safer environment for both students and staff.

ROCKPORT MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Rockport Middle School continues to offer students a wide variety of programs. Our core offerings of math, English, social studies, and science are enhanced with the study of technology, computers, music, art, drama, physical education, health, consumer science, reading, and Junior Great Books. The school continues to welcome school choice students from throughout Cape Ann and the North Shore. The influx of choice students helps our school maintain our class sizes and allows us to utilize our resources in an efficient manner. Our Middle School teachers continue to write their curriculum in the Understanding by Design format while also aligning it to the new Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. These frameworks are aligned with the national Common Core Standards. Students transitioned this year from the MCAS assessments to the PARCC statewide assessments.

Our school's drama program was very active this year. Our productions included a stage adaptation of Frank Capra's classic film, *It's a Wonderful Life*; the drama festival play, *10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse* which was performed at Lynnfield Middle School, and the musical *The Sound of Music*. RMS competed once again this year in the Massachusetts Educational Theater Awards. Over 75 middle and high schools compete each year. Judges are sent to each school's musical. The judges then nominate five students throughout the state in each category, and those nominated students attend a ceremony in Boston where one winner is announced in each category, much like the Tony Awards for school theater. Last year, our production of *The Sound of Music* received five nominations: Best Actor, Jack Kelly; Best Supporting Actress, Hattie Rich; Best Supporting Actor Alex Strzemilowski; Best Scenic Design and Execution, Riley Fennessy and Ryan Taber; and Best Sound Design and Execution, Amber Lumb and Noah Stevens. Two of our students won in their categories: Jack Kelly for Best Actor and Hattie Rich for Best Supporting Actress. Even more impressive was that this was the second year in a row that Hattie won the award in her category. She also won Best Featured Actress in 2014 for her performance as the French Chef in *The Little Mermaid*.

Last spring, students took a walking tour of Rockport searching for dates on plaques, statues, signs, and buildings. Upon returning to school, they researched some of the dates and events and made a timeline based on their findings. This fall, the sixth graders worked on team building during their annual trip to Appleton Farms. Students have completed two service projects. First, they personalized Vineyard Vines whales and uploaded their whales to instagram. Each uploaded whale represented a hot meal donated to a child in a less fortunate region of the country. Second, upon request of one of the sixth graders, classmates each created a holiday card for Safyre (an 8 year old burn victim in Schenectady, NY). Her Christmas wish was to receive as many cards as her card holder could hold and the sixth graders helped contribute to this wish.

The seventh graders traveled on their annual Salt Marsh trip. This trip is done in conjunction with Mass Audubon, who has been conducting a long-term study of invasive plant species in the salt marsh. This was our 13th year of participation. All of the data we collect is given to the Mass Audubon staff. The seventh grade also attended a two-day field trip to Gordon College to participate in Adventure Pursuits (previously GORP). Adventure Pursuits is an exhilarating and adventurous program, which encourages personal growth and group unity. Students are challenged with activities designed to test their initiative, teamwork, and perseverance.

This year the 7th grade students participated in an Environmental Stewardship Project. The goal was to have the students, working in small groups, selecting environmental areas to be cleaned up. Students plan and carry out these activities.

The Rockport Middle School Student Council took part in delivering campaign speeches in front of the middle school staff and student and voted for officers using the voting booths provided by the Town Clerk's office and the DPW. The student council representatives ran several fundraisers over the course of the year. The raised funds for Susan G. Komen For The Cure, The Open Door Cape Ann Food Pantry, the Cape Ann Animal Aid, The Jimmy Fund, and Oxfam America for the Nepalese earthquake victims. The students organized and participated in dances, various spirit days, spirit contests, a pep rally, and the end of the year Brain Brawl and Spirit Day Activities.

The Middle School participated in the National Geographic Society Geography Bee. The Bee is a school-wide event open to all students sixth through eighth grade. Eighth grader Nathaniel Kirby won this year's Bee. This is the first time we have had a student win the Geography Bee in multiple years. The middle school also participated in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. 8th grader Sophie Palmer won the school-wide competition, and made a strong showing at the regional competition held at the Lynn Memorial Auditorium where she finished in the top ten,

The Rockport Middle School Math Team earned first place in their division of the IMLEM, Intermediate Math League of Massachusetts, for the second year in a row. They competed in five meets throughout the year. Eighth grade student, Nathaniel Kirby, was the high scoring 8th grader for the year in the Ramanujan Division of IMLEM.

The Middle School Tech-Minecraft Club regularly packs the Mac Lab when they meet. Indeed, new additions to the club now need to bring their own laptops in order to participate as all 24 iMacs are often occupied. At first view Minecraft seems simple: build practically anything you can imagine. Yet in doing so, students express creativity as they initiate ever more grand designs. Through experimenting and working together, students begin to develop skills in creative thinking, math and geometry, and even a bit of geology. To complete larger tasks, they need to plan a strategy, define goals and work together to execute and see the project through, all valuable skills to possess in any future activities they may find themselves engaged in.

The Student Service Club was a new club started at RMS in May by then sixth grader Owen Parsons. The club had its first volunteering experience last spring when they did two trips to the Denmark Rehabilitation Facility to spend time interacting with the residents there. This fall the group's work continued with our first ever Halloween Fundraiser to benefit UNICEF which raised over \$250, a trip to Cape Ann Animal Aid where students volunteered working with the animals and prepping the cages, and a bake sale fundraiser for which raised over \$100 for Cape Ann Animal Aid.

The Middle School band program, under third-year director Anthony Covelli, continues to grow in size with the Middle School Jazz Ensembles performing in outreach concerts at the Den Mar Nursing home now three times a year. The Middle School Marching Band also doubled in size and participated in Rockport's Memorial Day Parade.

The Rockport Middle School Orchestras continued to expand into their tenth year in the Rockport Schools. Members of the orchestra program continued to participate in mentoring, forging relationships with both older and younger musicians and helping all the musicians aspire to deepening their music making. The Band, Orchestra, and Chorus students all convened in 4-12 grade music summits in the fall. Students worked with other students of different ages and with clinicians from around Cape Ann.

Through Rockport Music's Education and Outreach Committee, students in the Middle School continued to be exposed to world-class musicians, many of whom came to perform for students during in-school residencies. In addition, Rockport students continued to have the privilege of staging several concerts at the Shalin Liu Performance Center.

In the 2014-2015 school year, the 8th graders were able to have many educational experiences outside the school. They collected field data at a research-based field trip to Millbrook Park. They participate in this trip with the help of the Garden Club and NOAA volunteers. Students built model turbines in technology design, calculated the wind swept area in math, and learned about energy transfer in science class. Finally, the 8th graders traveled overnight to New York City, where they experienced such things as a narrated educational harbor cruise to see the Brooklyn Bridge, Statue of Liberty, and the NYC skyline, a Broadway Musical, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Central Park, the 9/11 Memorial, and the architecture of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

ROCKPORT HIGH SCHOOL

The Class of 2015 took part in our annual Seniors Helping Seniors day. Our students worked in teams to assist senior citizens with household chores. The program was coordinated with the Rockport Police Department and the Rockport Council on Aging.

The Rockport High School DECA program continued to experience success. Each spring since 2008, Rockport has qualified students to the National DECA Competition. The organization, which is nationwide, helps to develop young entrepreneurs and fosters leadership, group decision-making, business skills, and service. During 2014-2015 Rockport High School DECA registered a membership to 90 students. In addition, the chapter, with the help of the PTO and the Innkeepers of Rockport sponsored their annual holiday fundraiser--*Sea Shells*

and Jingle Bells Holiday Inn and Home Kitchen tour. Over 200 visitors took part in this event. Students competed at the District, State, and National Level sending 3 students to compete at the International Career and Development Conference in Orlando, Florida in April 2015.

The HS Jazz Ensemble performed and hosted the second annual Senior Citizen Swing Dance as part of the Junior Class community service project. The HS Jazz Ensemble performed at the Berklee Jazz Competition for the first time and placed in the top 10 of their competition group while Kiva Trumbour won two awards. Kiva was awarded a Judges Choice award and the Outstanding Musicianship award. The Band and Orchestra combined in the Spring Concert to perform the “Finale” from Shostakovich’s Fifth Symphony. The HS Symphonic Band performed Gustav Holst’s “Mars” in its original form to a standing ovation at the Spring Concert.

The Chorus and Madrigal Choir, under the direction of Patti Pike, continued to perform at events around town. In December the Chorus and Madrigals sang for Rockport Music at their annual Community Sing and in May the HS Chorus enjoyed singing for the Rotary Club of Rockport. Chamber Music students, in addition to regular concerts, also performed at various functions around the community, including art openings, Sea Shells and Jingle Bells, and the Middle Street Walk in Gloucester.

The Orchestra program expanded into its eleventh year in the Rockport Schools. In addition to its regular concerts, it also continued its outreach concert for kindergarten and preschool students at the Shalin Liu Performance Center. The performance, showcasing Camille Saint Saens' introduction to the orchestra, "Carnival of the Animals," drew heavily on student leadership as the players addressed the audience and introduced each of the movements and instruments. The High School Orchestra also performed for residents of Den Mar Nursing Home. In an attempt to further refine the student mentoring program, all Orchestra students from 4-12 grade worked with visiting violinist Mary Horozaniecki while she was in residence for a week in November. That week of intensive music clinics culminated in a collaborative summit concert at the John Lane Auditorium. The finale of the concert featured all students in the strings program - over 100 in total - on stage at the same time performing a movement of a Vivaldi Concerto.

The Band and Chorus students also convened in 4-12 grade music summits in the fall, though the configurations of those summits is becoming increasingly refined to the particular needs of each ensemble.

The students in Rockport Schools' music department continued to benefit from collaborations with Rockport Music, who again generously donated the use the Shalin Liu Center for performances by students. Through Rockport Music's

Education and Outreach programming, students in the high school continued to work closely with world-class musicians, including the West Point Woodwind Quintet. The West Point Military Musicians worked with the Symphonic Band in the fall to help with their performance of “Chester” by William Schumann. As always, the High School music staff worked with visiting artists to align curriculum to maximize the impact of residencies.

After several years of hard work and persistence, students in the Technical Design class earned a first place trophy in the annual Connecticut Electrathon, held in Lime Rock Park, CT. Over the course of the school year the team continued to modify and improve their two electric vehicles, repairing a broken steering shaft from the Fall competition and performing a complete overhaul. Competing against over 20 other schools in the May Electrathon, the Rockport Electrathon team posted 47 laps in the composite division, setting a team record and winning first place. Many thanks to the Educational Foundation of Rockport for their generous sponsorship of this program.

The High School Guidance Department coordinated a Sophomores to College Day. Sophomores chose colleges of interest to visit. This year, students met with admissions staff and went on tours of campuses such as Suffolk University, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Salem State University, Gordon College, Boston University and Northeastern University. Thank you to the Educational Foundation for Rockport for their generous sponsorship of this event.

The High School Guidance Department teamed up with Salem State University to offer college courses free of charge. Students have successfully completed and earned college credit for Psychology, Public Speaking and Sociology courses. The Guidance Department has also worked with North Shore Community College to offer STEM courses free of charge.

The High School Guidance Department hosted our annual Career Day. Over forty professionals from the community volunteered their time to speak to high school students about careers and education. Thank you to the Rockport Rotary who hosted a breakfast for all of the community volunteers.

The Guidance Department met with the Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce and educational leaders from Gloucester, Manchester-Essex and Essex Technical High School to plan and implement the first Cape Ann College and Career Fair. The event took place at Gloucester High School and over 80 colleges and 50 business leaders were in attendance. Over 200 students and their parents/guardians from the Cape Ann area attended.

Our Virtual High School online membership funded by the Educational Foundation for Rockport provides students an opportunity to take classes not

otherwise offered at RHS. Classes included AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, Philosophy and Biochemistry.

For a small community, Rockporters are very generous. We have a significant number of local scholarships. The Rockport community awarded \$248,850 to 66 of our exiting seniors. 93% of this group of seniors was accepted to two-year and four-year colleges.

The Rockport High School College Bowl/Quiz Bowl Team continues to participate in the North Shore College Bowl League. In April 2015 Rockport finished in fifth place and is looking forward to completing another successful season.

Peer Leaders are a group of high school students dedicated to community service, outreach and leadership. Activities for the group included monthly trips to the elementary schools to talk to the younger students about important character-building issues, an annual leadership event for the freshmen class, and leadership trainings. High School Peer Leaders continue to work on projects, read stories and assist the classroom teachers. This experience is a wonderful way for the students to be positive role models for younger children. They also facilitated the third annual Freshmen Leadership Workshop in which all freshmen worked with our Peer Leaders on such topics as: being grateful, thinking positive, achieving their goals and being kind.

Student Council kicked off the year with a slush social. In October, students supported the Breast Cancer Awareness initiative and in December organized a "Toys for Teens" drive to support Wellspring. The annual Spirit Week competitions were held in March. Student Council members organized the various events, which included a variety of athletic, art, cooking and dance competitions. Finally, penny wars and a restaurant fundraiser earned the council funds to support a scholarship.

The high school drama program produced three successful performances in 2015. With support from the Local Cultural Council, RHS drama brought *The World Ends with Us* to the Massachusetts Educational Theatre Guild Drama Festival. *The World Ends with Us* was an original work, written by then junior Mary Colussi. The set was designed by then junior Nick Endicott. Approximately 24 students traveled to Hamilton-Wenham High School to share their work (as actors and technicians) with seven other schools from around Massachusetts. Several students were recognized for their work in acting as well as set design and execution. The piece was one of three selected to advanced to the Semi-Final round of competition, where again it was recognized for excellence in acting, stage design and stage management at Brockton High School. The spring musical was *Gofspell*, which brought together 35 participants. One of the highlights of this show was the ensemble-based process by which it was developed. Students worked together in groups to plan, develop and modernize

each of the parable-based vignettes featured in the play. During the fall of 2015, RHS Drama undertook another musical production - *Fiddler on the Roof*. This production featured 47 students, as actors, technicians and musicians in the pit.

As a part of our Promoting Positive School Culture Initiative, we have incorporated the PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) behavioral framework into our everyday school culture. We have focused specifically on the cafeteria and hallways starting in the 2015-2016 school year. This has been widely successful, especially in the Middle School where the staff members have incorporated our PRIDE expectations in the classroom as well. We will continue to utilize our PRIDE theme in both our Middle and High School culture and will be analyzing and assessing the positive impact this makes on our school and community.

Members of the RHS Science Department have engaged students in a wide variety of learning experiences that advance their skills in questioning, exploring, critical thinking, problem solving, collaborating, and communicating. The year began with a \$5,300 grant to the RHS Science Department from Cell Signaling Technologies in support of the RHS Biotechnology education program. This program was created in 2008 through a grant from Boston University's BioTeach Program and was then sustained for several years through a partnership with the Amgen/Bruce Wallace Foundation at Harvard University. Partnerships with Harvard continued this year courtesy of Harvard Anatomy & Physiology professor Jen Carr who led dissection classes at RHS and at Harvard. Bill Waller and Superintendent Rob Liebow taught the second semester of a new interdisciplinary course on "Life in the Universe – A Deep History" which culminated in a field trip to the Harvard Museum of Natural History. In March, students in Bill Waller's AP Physics-II class presented their research projects as part of the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS) that was held this year at the University of New Hampshire. Sayles Kasten won the Southern New England Region second place award for his poster presentation on "A Quantitative Assessment of Gerrymandering of U.S. Congressional Districts."

Throughout the year, David Tower hosted several "star parties" for his Astronomy students and their families. These night-sky events involve viewing celestial objects through telescopes that have been gifted to the school over the years. Members of the Science Club (aka Students Exploring Earth and Space [SEES]) carried out a wide variety of "citizen science" research projects via the Zooniverse online portal and other venues. Three students earned Certificates of Achievement in Scientific Inquiry that were signed by Raji Patel, co-director of the Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium (MASGC), and Jeff Hoffman, MASGC co-director and former NASA astronaut. During the warm months, Barbara Swanson engaged her biology students in a variety of research projects involving bees. In May, the RHS Science and Technology departments hosted the second annual Math & Science Circus and STEM Expo – a public family-

friendly event that showcased achievements by students and unique technical capabilities of Rockport's police and fire departments. In September, Eric Sabo's Marine Science class investigated the waters of Rockport Harbor in terms of their physical and biological properties. They then performed similar research investigations of Gloucester's outer harbor while aboard the pinky schooner *Ardelle* in partnership with Maritime Gloucester. Also this fall, Barbara Swanson began hosting a yoga instructor as part of her Human Body and Health class to help students learn how to relieve stress. And in October, Bill Waller succeeded in raising sufficient funding through the educational crowd-funding site DonorsChoose.org to purchase a thermal infrared camera. It is now being used by students for research projects involving thermal (heat) emission from nature and various technologies.

ROCKPORT HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAM

The athletic program at RHS/RMS continues to have a high participation rate among our students. The comprehensive program offers 24 different teams in three seasons at both the varsity and sub varsity levels. Our athletic programs rely on the support that we receive from our outstanding booster organization, the Friends of Rockport Athletics. We continue our cooperative program relationship with Manchester-Essex and Gloucester High School, which enables students to participate in football and swim.

The winter season provided many exciting nights in the Stephen A. Rowell Gymnasium with both the boys' and girls' basketball teams qualifying for the state tournament. The girls' basketball team had a tremendous season— making the tournament for the second time in as many years. The boys team battled all year and qualified for the tourney with a win in their last regular season game. The hockey team worked very hard throughout the season and hope to continue their growth and development for next year. Earning league recognition were Mike McCarthy CAL 1st team all-star with CAL 2nd team all-star honors going to Conor Kuykendall & Andrew Wayrynen; and named to the Commonwealth Athletic Conference Ice Hockey All-Star Ice Hockey All-Stars team were Kyle Nelson and Jameson Kamm.

The baseball team had many new, young faces but battled each and every game coming up just short of a tournament berth – the future looks very promising. The girls' tennis team also had many new faces but continues to show steady improvement. The softball team had another outstanding season. Seeded 9th in the Division 3 North tournament, the girls qualified through to the quarterfinal round before falling to Amesbury. Those recognized with league all-star honors include: 1st team honors to Kayla Parisi & Jessica Collins (softball); 2nd team honors to Kyle Nelson (baseball), Danny Ryan (baseball), Allie Davis (softball) and Rachel Haselgard (softball).

In the fall the young golf team battled some very tough Cape Ann League opponents losing some a number of matches by a narrow margin. Captains Travis Sweet and Ethan Tanson were named CAL Second Team All-Stars. The field hockey team flirted with qualifying for the state tournament, but came up short - Heidi Warde and Miranda Roller were named CAL1st Team All-Stars, and Emily Faulds CAL 2nd Team All-Star. The girls' soccer continues to show improvement and things look very bright for the future. Captain Allie Davis and Alex Arndt were recognized as CAL 2nd Team All-Stars.

The boys soccer team qualified for the state tournament for the 7th year in a row and were led by CAL 1st Team All-Stars Mateo Laverde and Andrew Wayrynen in addition to CAL 2nd Team All-Stars Gideon Roell and Captain Nick Sanfilippo.

During the year the baseball, softball and field hockey teams were recipients of Cape Ann League Sportsmanship Awards.

On the state level, Athletic Director Mary Ryan was named the 2015 MSSADA Athletic Director of the Year in addition to being recognized by the MIAA with a 2015 Massachusetts Women in Sport Distinguished Service Award

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Office of Student Services currently supports approximately 183 students ages 3-22 who are eligible for special education services. It is the goal of the Rockport Public Schools to provide a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment to enable students to access the general education setting to the greatest extent possible. The delivery of special education services requires Rockport to provide specialized instruction tailored to each individual student's needs as outlined in the student's IEP.

The Rockport Public Schools offers a continuum of special education and related services. For students in grades K-12 these services include direct, specialized academic instruction both in and out of the general education classroom as well as related services such as speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, specialized reading programs, and counseling services. At the middle and high school level, these services also include academic support classes and specialized reading and writing classes. Some students with emotional disabilities in grades K-8 receive services from a special education teacher who has additional training in supporting students with behavioral health needs.

The Rockport Public Schools also has an integrated preschool program in which students with disabilities are educated with typically developing peers in language-based classroom environment.

The Rockport Parent Advisory Council (RPAC) is a dedicated group of parents that meet on a regular basis to build relationships between the student services administration, school committee, and parents. This group collaborates with the Director of Student Services to provide input on student needs throughout the district. RPAC membership is open to all families of students with disabilities as well as families who are interested in their student's learning style or in learning differences in general.

For questions about the special education programs in the Rockport Public Schools, please contact the Office of Student Services at 978.546.1210.

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The *Rockport Community Schools* is a totally self-funded program that provides continuing education classes by offering a variety of courses to the residents of Cape Ann and the surrounding area. This past year the program consisted of a drawing and painting class taught by Joy Dai Buell and the popular Health & Body classes; Fitness with Marsha and Yoga with Janet. We also introduced a new class..."Learn to Play Bridge", which has been very well-received. The music tutoring program is starting its fourth year and offers a bass instructor, a violin/viola instructor, a cello instructor, and a new drum instructor for private after-school lessons for our multi-talented students...an extension of the ever expanding music department.

The revenues from classes and school-facility rentals assist in maintaining and replacing equipment used by the entire Rockport school community. The program purchased new theater lights and paid for repairs and supplies for the John Lane Auditorium, which is used by many groups from the North Shore area; including the local Rockport Dance Academy, who uses the auditorium twice a year for their annual Christmas show and again at the end of the school year for their dance recital.

The Community Schools program utilizes the talent of local people to teach their skills to all interested individuals. It provides affordable classes to the people in the community who want to expand their knowledge and improve their well-being. It also helps maintain an active relationship between the public schools and the residents of the North Shore area.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOLS

The Friends of Rockport Athletics'

The Friends of Rockport Athletics' booster organization continued this year to be actively involved in supporting student athletes. The FRA purchased uniforms for the tennis team, cheering mats for the cheerleaders, and socks for the hockey

team. The FRA funded a water filling station for the high school gym, step and grip pads for the basketball team, monies toward the purchase of a groomer for the athletic fields, and monies to help replace equipment in the Cam Star room at the high school. The FRA also donates money for education programs for Rockport coaches. The major fundraising activity for the year was the annual golf tournament. The FRA runs a concession stand at high school sporting events. The FRA held bowling fundraisers in March and November. Proceeds from these events are used by the FRA to directly support the athletic programs for Rockport students as well as fund scholarships for graduating seniors. Funding from the FRA continues to provide wonderful enhancements for the school district's athletic program.

Rockport Parent Teacher Organization,

Rockport's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is an active and committed group of volunteers who work toward promoting close relationships between the community and the Rockport Public School System to assist in the education of the students. The PTO works diligently throughout the year to provide the school with the "extras" that enhance the educational experience of each student within the Rockport Public Schools.

Proceeds generated by the PTO's fundraising efforts help fund teachers' requests which support specific classroom initiatives not able to be included within the annual school budget, provide funds for educational field trips and cultural enrichment activity programs and college scholarships. One of the schools favorites is when the PTO provides funding programs that come right to the school. In November alone we had a Pilgrim visit third grade and a Rock's and Minerals program came to the fourth graders. The PTO is excited to continue to provide a variety of activities outside of the school day, including such events as Spooky Story Night, Movie Nights, and various educational speakers for the staff, students, their families, and the community.

The Rockport PTO is greatly thankful for the ongoing community support of our events, such as the wrapping paper sale, the Holiday Fair, and our bi-annual auction. This tremendous community involvement supports our goal of enhancing the experience for all students at the Rockport Public Schools.

TEACHER SALARY SCHEDULE

Step	BA	MA	MA+15	MA+30	MA+45	MA+60	MA+75
2	41426	45220	46574	48670	50374	51884	52922
3	42807	46873	48279	50452	52219	53786	54862
4	45464	48940	50409	52677	54520	56157	57280
5	48803	51008	52539	54903	56824	58530	59701
6	50182	53008	54598	57054	59051	60823	62039
7	51561	55008	56657	59205	61279	63116	64378
8	53629	57074	58786	61434	63584	65491	66801
9	55696	59833	61627	64401	66655	68656	70028
10	57213	61488	63331	66181	68498	70553	71964
11	58730	63142	65035	67962	70340	72451	73900
12	60521	66278	68265	71336	73835	76049	77570
13	62313	69413	71494	74711	77329	79648	81241
W	63313	70413	72494	75711	78329	80648	82241
X	64313	71413	73494	76711	79329	81648	83241
Y	65313	72413	74494	77711	80329	82648	84241
Z	66313	73413	75494	78711	81329	83648	85241

W after 10-14 years of **continuous** service in RPS = \$1000

X after 15-19 years of **continuous** service in RPS = \$2000

Y after 20-24 years of **continuous** service in RPS = \$3000

Z after 25+ years of **continuous** service in RPS = \$4000

CHANGES IN THE ROCKPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS FACULTY/STAFF 2015-2016

Retired in 2015:

- Marsha Ferrante (SPED Team Chair)

Resigned in 2015:

- Phil Conrad (RMHS Principal)
- Tara Cowe-Spigai (RMHS AP)
- Jennifer Jones (Director of Student Services)
- Shawn Maguire (EL Principal)
- Suzanne Manieri (RHS Reading)
- Jared Harvey (MS SPED)
- Amanda Warren (HS Math)
- John Belson (Crossing Guard)

Leave

Conant, Amy (EL TA)

Jodi Goodhue (1 yr RMS Math)

Amy Rose (1 yr RHS Guidance)

Return from Leave

Orlando, Jamie (Pre-K)

Left due to Reduction in Force:**Non-renewal:****Sabbatical:****Contract ended:**

- Harvey, Karen (MS Foreign Language)
- Moses, Elizabeth (EL Long-term Sub)

New Faculty/Staff 2015-2016

Bach, Gregg (RMHS Principal)

Brown, Garrett (RMS SPED Teacher)

Cox-Stavros, Martha (.6 MS Spanish)

Crane (Washburne) Victoria (RMHS Reading Teacher)

Fecych, Alexandria (RMS Math)

Ferrante, Marsha (Out of District Placement Coordinator)

Fiero, Guy (MS TA)

Goodhue, Jodi (Math Specialist)

Lake, Anne (Crossing)

Lamond, Tina (.8 K-TA)

Lucido, Connie (LTS-PK TA)

Lucido, Nicole (Kindergarten)

McGovern, Lindsey (Director of Student Services)

Osier, Amanda (HS Guidance Secretary)

Palazola, Leah (HS Math)

Ruth Price (RHS Guidance)

Rich, Cindy (MS Teacher Clerk)

Rose, Amy (RMHS AP)

Sabo, Eric (.2 HS Bio)

Seminara, Jude (MS TA)

Siciliano, Robert (RMHS AP)

Simendinger, Todd (EL Principal)

Tarr, Jennifer (.3 MS Drama)

Zuis, Andrea (In-School Suspension)

The Rockport High School Class of 2015

Christopher Michael Ambrose			
* Abdullah Mohammed Anwar	** †	Henry Earl Meredith	
* Alexandra Siobhan Arnaud	*	Patrick William Moroney	
* Samuel Max Azucena		Ashley Christine Murphy	
Zachary Keeler Baker	* †	Viola Virgo Nassimbwa Nakkazi	
* † Rachel Elizabeth Balestraci	*	Kyle Alan Nelson	
* † Kelly Ann Biondo	** †	Aliza Jacoba Morgan Ottenheimer	
Christian Mark Brighi	** †	Jamey Elizabeth Ouellette	
** Isabelle Margaret Brisson	*	Kayla Rose Parisi	
* Laura June Budrow		Jacynda Brianna Peña	
* Megan Elizabeth Burgess	** †	Nelson Adams Pike	
Miyen Rosien Chang		Joshua Isaiah Proposki	
* Jessica Linda Collins		Alex William Randazza	
Daniel James Coveney	** †	Soni Shanbar Razdan	
** † Emily Marie Dailey	* †	Jacob Gray Rostkowski	
Gabriel Rene Finlan	* †	Jared Gray Rostkowski	
Nicholas James Fitzgerald		Adam Archibald Rudolph	
* Ethan Charles Fuller		Keenan Michael Ryan	
Veronica Karb Funk	* †	Stephen Kenneth Ryan	
* Shelby Ann Gale		Shelby Leigh Salas	
** Andrew Hayden Gleckner		Leah Katherine Saunders	
* Alexander Kilby Gove		Tiago Felipe Serpa	
* Michael James Gray		Katelynn Marie Sholds	
Cayden James Grooms	** †	Corey Michael Silver	
** † Oliver Tarr Herman	*	Pierce Malek Strumpf	
** † Michaela Amber Hillier	*	Jerushah Estelle Sweet	
** † Quenton William Hurst		Michael Joseph Tedesco	
* † Bridget Jane Johnson		Brendan William Thompson	
Eileeah Marion Joubert	*	Matthew Conrad Tibert	
** † Sayles Doucette Kasten		Logan Michael Trupiano	
Olivia Conwell Keating	*	Olivia Margaret Turner	
Samuel David Knowlton		Kebby James Vincent	
* Conor Paul Liam Kuykendall	*	Annika Aileigh Walima	
Katherine Alexandria Logan		Megan Marion Welcome	
* Katherine Taylor Maddox		Sean Patrick Welcome	
* Myles Christopher Mattson		Alexander Russell Whittaker	
Sean Michael McArdle		Hunter James Williamson	
* Liam Lampert McCarthy	** †	Jennie Marie Yoors	
Michael David McCarthy			

** Four Year High Honor Average * Four Year Honor Average † National Honor Society Member
Gold cord signifies class officer – Gold tassel signifies National Honor Society member

Class Color: Blue

Class Motto: “We May Not Have It All Together, But Together We Have It All”

<u>Graduation Marshal</u>	<u>Class Advisors</u>
McKenzie Beaton, ‘16	Ms. Amanda Mattson
Junior Class President	Ms. Amy Rose

Graduation Master of Ceremony
George Ramsden

2014-2015 Faculty

Allia	Robert	Lesley College	MA	10	9	Merry-Berry	Rebecca	Salem State College	M.Ed.	31	25
Amuzzini	Chris	Bridgewater St. Univ.	M	4	3	Murphy	Maureen	Lesley College	M.Ed.	23	23
Andreassen	Karen	Univ. of Michigan	M	10	3	Murray	Kascia	Salem State University	B.A.	3	3
Barenboym	Sonja	Simmons College	M	10	3	Nichols	Jamie	UMASS Boston	M.Ed.	1	1
Burke	Christine	Endicott College	M.Ed.	12	12	NieinstedtSantos	Mary Sue	Oakland University	M.Ed.	23	18
Canniff	Erin	U. Mass. @ Amherst	B.S.	22	11	O'Hanley	Robert	Cambridge College	M. Ed.	13	6
Castonquay	Heather	Salem State University	M.Ed.	26	1	O'Brien	Zachary	Corcoran School of Art	MA	1	1
Chace	AnnMarie	VA Poly Inst & St. Univ	MA	9	1	Olson	Mary Jane	Westfield State College	M.Ed.	30	23
Clark	Mary	Lesley College	M.Ed.	4	4	Orlando	Jamie	American Int. College.	M.Ed.	4	4
Clifton-Stoops	Anne	Boston University	M. Ed.	19	17	Paddock	Simon	MASS College of Art	M.F.A.	29	28
Cocuzzi	Mary Ellen	Nazareth College	M.Ed.	19	7	Parisi	John	Salem State College	B.S.	15	14
Cohen	Nathan	Macalaster College	B.A.	13	13	Perkins	Jeffrey	Salem State College	M.Ed.	12	9
Coneys	Angelina	Univ of MA Lowell	M.Ed.	4	1	Pike	Patricia	Univ. of North Dakota	B.S.	10	10
Conrad	Phillip	Endicott College	M.Ed.	28	4	Pratt	Jeanne	Univ. of MA Boston	B.S.	13	13
Cooney	Martha	Salem State College	B.A.	23	16	Primo	Marlena	Endicott College	M.Ed.	10	3
Corcoran	Sara	Fitchburg State College	M.Ed.	9	9	Proposki	Amy	Wheelock College	M.S.	13	13
Covelli	Anthony	University of Delaware	B.A.	3	3	Raftelis	Julie	Fitchburg State College	M. Ed.	20	19
Cowe-Spigai	Tara	Endicott College	M.Ed.	17	4	Rash	Roseann	Northeastern University	M.Ed.	39	34
Crocker	Robin	University of Akron	MA,JD	8	8	Rice	Jessica	Lesley University	M.S.	12	12
Dahlgren	Jennifer	Merrimack College	B.A.	24	21	Richards	Jeffery	Fitchburg State College	M.Ed.	14	14
Dineen	Cornelius	Boston College	M. Ed.	33	22	Riley	Joann	Salem State College	M. Ed.	23	23
Dineen	Patti	Cambridge College	M. Ed.	33	33	Rose	Amy	Salem State College	M. Ed.	5	5
Duffy	Lilliam	Salem State College	M.A.	14	14	Ryan	Mary Beth	Springfield College	M. Ed.	31	31
Englis	Alyssa	Ithica College	M. Ed.	16	12	Sabo	Eric	UMASS Dartmouth	M. Ed.	13	13
Fauci	Chris	Simmons College	M. Ed.	12	5	Sawyer	Sarah	Endicott College	M.S.	2	1
Fauci	Kristen	UVM/Simmons	M. Ed.	15	10	Scatterday	Anita	Frostburg State Univ.	M. Ed.	23	18
Ferazzi	Denise	Salem State College	M.A.	11	11	Schram	Paula	Gordon College	M.A.	25	17
Gagnon	Dickinson	Northeastern Univ.	M. Ed.	18	17	Schwinden	Katherine	Harvard University	M. Ed.	4	1
Geoffrey	Suzanne	Northeastern University	M. Ed.	23	21	Shaw	Kaitlin	University of Hartford	M.A.	6	1
Goodhue	Jodi	Simmons College	M. Ed.	14	10	Shaw	Kimberly	Cambridge College	M. Ed.	14	1
Green	Holly	Salem State	M. Ed.	17	17	Simendinger	Todd	Univ. of Phoenix	M	13	3
Harvey	Jared	Simmons College	M. Ed.	9	1	Stein	Tami	Gordon College	M. Ed.	10	10
Harvey	Karen	Salem State University		1	1	Stokes	Samantha	Sacred Heart University	M.A.	1	1
Hermann	Kerry	Simmons College	M. Ed.	17	10	Story	Yvonne	Salem State University	M	3	3
Hildreth	Joanne	Springfield College	M. Ed.	20	18	Sullivan	Cheryl	Lesley College	M. Ed.	25	25
Holtzman	SallyAnn	Salem State University	M. Ed.	4	1	Swanberg	Whitney	Providence College	B.A.	5	5
Johnson	Jennifer	Salem State College	BS	3	3	Swanson	Barbara	Lesley University	M. Ed.	15	12
Jones	Pamela	UMASS Dartmouth	B.A.	22	19	Swanson	Gary	Salem State University	B.S.	18	16
Kardenetz	BethAnn	Bay Path College	M	4	4	Tibert	Robyn	Fitchburg State College	M. Ed.	29	29
Kiely	Elizabeth	Lesley College	M. Ed.	34	34	Tower	David	Univ. of CA/Columbia	M.S.	30	20
King	Amanda	Northeastern University	M. Ed.	18	16	Trumbour	Darlene	Fitchburg State College	M. Ed.	15	12
Kligerman	Gaye	Salem State College	M. Ed.	25	21	Tucker	John	Univ of MA Lowell	M. Ed.	11	1
Kluge	Linda	Lesley University	M.A.	10	7	Twombly	Gillian	Middlebury College	M. Ed.	17	9
Kuhlmann	Mysha	Univ of MA Boston	M	10	1	Twombly	Stacey	Cambridge College	M. Ed.	20	9
LaCasse	Donna	Salem State College	M. Ed.	18	17	Vaughan	Linda	Boston University	M.A.	16	6
Larsen	Scott	Walden University	M. Ed.	22	14	Vendt	Eric	Gordon College	M. Ed.	12	1
Lawnsby	Christopher	Colgate University	B.A.	3	3	Walker	Stephanie	Gordon College	B.A.	4	4
Luster	Ann Marie	UMASS Dartmouth	M.A.	20	20	Waller	Willima	UMASS Amherst	Ph.D.	4	4
Mackay Smith	Rebecca	Binghamton Univ.	Ph.D.	9	9	Warren	Amanda	St. Joseph's College	B.A.	9	9
Maddox	Lisa	Lesley College	M. Ed.	23	22	Whitley	Phillip	Gordon College	B.A.	9	4
Maguire	Shawn	California State University	M. Ed.	16	7	Wilson	Robin	Illinois State Univ.	B.S.	33	28
Manieri	Suzanne	East Stroudsburg Univ.	M	12	3	Young	David	Lesley University	M. Ed.	3	3
McCarthy	Keith	Springfield College	B.S.	19	17	Zerilli	Beth	Lesley University	M. Ed.	15	1
McWilliams	Carolyn	Harvard University	M. Ed.	11	9						

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN ACCOUNTANT
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 2015**



Pursuant to the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 41, Section 61, I submit the reports of the accounts of the Town of Rockport for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2015. The statements contained in this report are the following: Combined Balance Sheet including Special Revenues, Combined Balance Sheet - Enterprise Funds, General Fund Revenue, General Fund Expenditures, Community Preservation Fund Expenditures, Water Fund Statement of Operations and Sewer Fund Statement of Operations.

FY15 audit has not been finalized therefore all statements presented are **UNAUDITED** at submittal date.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Yarid
Town Accountant

Town of Rockport Combined Balance Sheet June 30, 2015

Sum of Adj Balance Acct Type		Fund		General Fund	Special Revenue	Cap Project	Water	Sewer	Trust	GLTD	GLTD - Water	GLTD - Sewer	Grand Total
1	Petty Cash			1,555.00	180.00								1,735.00
	Cash			3,865,112.46	4,362,074.65	2,046,837.75	431,712.70	1,067,400.71	3,848,522.21				15,621,660.48
	Amortization/R				132,734.50								132,734.50
	Def Prop Tax A/R			43,365.65				2,203.95					45,569.60
	Departmental A/R			62,910.24									62,910.24
	DUE FROM COMM - CHAPTER 90			555,587.74	41,428.70								597,016.44
	Excise				249,715.08								249,715.08
	Property Tax			85,248.94									85,248.94
	Sewer User Charges			336,740.52	4,836.97								341,577.49
	Sewer Liens							210,536.46					210,536.46
	Tax Foreclosures							4,364.64					4,364.64
	Tax Liens			303,348.32									303,348.32
	Water Liens			132,934.44									132,934.44
	WATER USER CHARGES RECEIVABLE							4,769.28					4,769.28
	AMTS TO PROVIDED FOR PAY BONDS							164,632.97					164,632.97
Total				4,886,803.31	4,810,970.30	2,046,837.75	601,114.95	1,284,505.76	3,848,522.21	8,371,160.00	1,307,875.00	2,551,965.00	12,231,000.00
2	Accrued Wages Payable			113,095.50									113,095.50
	Allowance for Abatements			164,711.50				13,175.78					177,887.28
	BAN					835,000.00							835,000.00
	BONDS PAYABLE												
	Def Revenue - Departmental			55,587.74									55,587.74
	Def Rev Paid In Advance												
	Def Revenue - Belterment			43,365.65									43,365.65
	DEF REVENUE - DEF PROPERTY TAX			62,910.24									62,910.24
	DEF REVENUE - Excise			85,248.94									85,248.94
	DEF REVENUE - INTERGOVERNMENTAL				249,705.08								249,705.08
	DEF REVENUE - REAL & PERSONAL			172,029.03	4,836.97								176,866.00
	DEF REVENUE - SEWER LIENS							4,364.64					4,364.64
	DEF REVENUE - SEWER USER CHGS							2,203.95					2,203.95
	DEF REVENUE - TAX FORECLOSURES							210,536.46					210,536.46
	DEF REVENUE - TAX LIENS			303,348.32									303,348.32
	DEFERRED REV - DEPARTMENTAL			132,934.44	194,163.60								327,098.04
	Deferred Revenue User Charges						164,632.97						164,632.97
	Deferred Revenue Water Liens						4,769.28						4,769.28
	MISC TAX PAYABLE				108.33								108.33
	Refunds Due			8,202.11	93.34								8,295.45
	Unclaimed Checks			7,118.86									7,118.86
	Warrants Payable												
	Withholdings Payable			340,438.80									340,438.80
				1,486,813.13									1,486,813.13
				325,001.00									325,001.00
				(7,372.49)	180.00								1,735.00
								636,502.63					636,502.63
3	FB - RSVD FOR ENCUMBRANCES												
	FB - RSVD FOR PETTY CASH												
	FB Designated Overlay Deficit												
	FB RES - CARRY FORWARD ARTICLES												
	FB RES - ENCUMBRANCES							636,502.63					636,502.63
	FB RES - DEBT PAYMENT							93,321.23					93,321.23
	FB RES - EXPENDITURES												
	FB RESERVED FOR DEBT SERVICE							70,000.00					70,000.00
	FB RSVD EXPENDITURES (SUB YR)			636,365.00			60,000.00						696,365.00
	FB RSVD CARRY FORWARD ARTICLES			923,890.70			149,241.61						1,073,132.31
	UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE			1,799,829.44	4,361,839.39	1,211,837.75	185,726.77	254,398.17	3,848,522.21				11,662,153.73
	ACCRUED PAYROLL				43.59								43.59
				(81,457.06)									(81,457.06)
	FB - RSVD FOR SNOW & ICE DEFICIT			3,397,812.19									3,397,812.19
Total				9,773,606.63	4,362,062.98	1,211,837.75	412,836.92	2,569,011.52	7,697,044.42	16,742,320.00	2,615,750.00	5,103,930.00	59,419,508.57
Grand total					9,621,940.60	4,093,675.50	1,202,229.90	2,569,011.52					14,292,344.02

Town of Rockport Combined Balance Sheet - Enterprise Funds June 30, 2015

Sum of Adj Balance		Fund				
Acct Type	Account	Water	Sewer	GLTD - Water	GLTD - Sewer	Combined
1	Cash	431,712.70	1,067,400.71			1,499,113.41
	Betterment		2,203.95			2,203.95
	Sewer User Charges		210,536.46			210,536.46
	SewerLiens		4,364.64			4,364.64
	Water Liens	4,769.28				4,769.28
	WATER USER CHARGES RECEIVABLE	164,632.97				164,632.97
	AMTS TB PROVIDED FOR PAY BONDS			1,307,875.00	2,551,965.00	3,859,840.00
"Total		601,114.95	1,284,505.76	1,307,875.00	2,551,965.00	5,745,460.71
2	Accrued Wages Payable	13,875.78	13,178.68			27,054.46
	BONDS PAYABLE					
	DEF REVENUE - SEWER LIENS		4,364.64	1,307,875.00	2,551,965.00	3,859,840.00
	DEF REVENUE - SEWER SPEC ASMTS		2,203.95			2,203.95
	DEF REVENUE - SEWER USER CHGS		210,536.46			210,536.46
	Deferred Revenue User Charges	164,632.97				164,632.97
	Deferred Revenue WaterLiens	4,769.28				4,769.28
	Warrants Payable					
"Total		183,278.03	230,283.73	1,307,875.00	2,551,965.00	4,273,401.76
3	FB - RSV'D FOR ENCUMBRANCES	22,868.54				22,868.54
	FB RES - CARRY FORWARD ARTICLES		636,502.63			636,502.63
	FB RES - ENCUMBRANCES		93,321.23			93,321.23
	FB RES - DEBT PAYMENT					
	FB RES - EXPENDITURES					
	FB RSV'D EXPENDITURES (SUB YR)	60,000.00	70,000.00			70,000.00
	FB-RSVD CARRY FORWARD ARTICLES	149,241.61				60,000.00
	UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE	185,726.77	254,398.17			149,241.61
"Total		417,836.92	1,054,222.03			440,124.94
		1,202,229.90	2,569,011.52	2,615,750.00	5,103,930.00	11,490,921.42
"Combined		\$ 601,114.95	\$ 1,284,505.76	\$ 1,307,875.00	\$ 2,551,965.00	\$ 5,745,460.71
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance						

Town of Rockport

Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Change in Fund Balance - Budgeted and Actual

Year=2015 and Date Range from 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2015 and Fund from '01' to '01'

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE	1,000.00	1,045.02	1,045.02	0.00
PLANNING BOARD	48,879.00	48,879.00	46,882.46	1,996.54
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	18,740.00	19,184.70	18,723.20	461.50
POLICE DEPARTMENT	1,695,560.00	1,781,227.25	1,662,502.12	118,725.13
TRAFFIC & PARKING	102,593.00	162,593.00	106,606.45	55,986.55
LIFEGUARDS	54,332.00	54,332.00	49,339.41	4,992.59
FIRE DEPARTMENT	237,462.00	261,652.65	241,583.55	20,069.10
FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT	26,663.00	42,303.00	27,642.32	14,660.68
AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT	166,332.00	160,384.00	102,285.97	58,098.03
INSPECTIONAL SERVICE	119,363.00	119,363.00	116,465.89	2,897.11
ANIMAL INSPECTOR	1,913.00	1,913.00	1,912.68	0.32
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	4,465.00	4,465.00	4,465.00	0.00
ANIMAL & DOG CONTROL	16,141.00	17,281.00	10,018.53	7,262.47
PARKING CLERK	45,856.00	31,856.00	29,481.66	2,374.34
HARBORMASTER & SHELLFISH	126,210.00	139,086.38	127,203.22	11,883.16
HARBOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE	515.00	515.00	0.00	515.00
ROCKPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS	10,885,540.00	10,946,108.97	10,774,250.31	171,858.66
NORTH SHORE VOC-TECH	306,280.00	340,043.00	340,043.00	0.00
DPW - ADMIN LABOR	214,834.00	209,584.59	209,584.59	0.00
DPW - FIELD LABOR	840,418.00	805,859.06	805,859.06	0.00
DPW - SEASONAL LABOR	22,852.00	39,517.84	39,517.84	0.00
DPW - OVERTIME	83,900.00	180,612.69	180,612.69	0.00
DPW - FUEL/LIGHT/POWER	257,912.00	256,289.61	220,069.86	36,219.75
DPW - EXPENSES	597,731.00	798,618.74	876,625.36	-78,006.62
DPW ARTICLES	0.00	14,980.12	12,748.78	2,231.34
DPW ARTICLES	90,400.00	540,919.21	121,164.00	419,755.21
BOARD OF HEALTH	79,856.00	79,856.00	73,780.93	6,075.07
COUNCIL ON AGING	57,933.00	58,957.00	58,205.24	751.76
VETERANS SERVICES	63,748.00	68,748.00	52,487.24	16,260.76
PUBLIC LIBRARY	514,246.00	499,001.87	488,837.09	10,164.78
RECREATION COMMITTEE	50,819.00	52,294.00	51,149.98	1,144.02
GRANITE PIER COMMITTEE	21,744.00	21,969.58	18,925.98	3,043.60
THACHER ISLAND TOWN COMMITTEE	18,750.00	23,525.31	22,623.60	901.71
STRAIGHTSMOUTH ISLAND	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE	2,608.00	2,608.00	2,249.37	358.63
MATURING DEBT	889,000.00	955,388.00	889,000.00	66,388.00
MATURING DEBT INTEREST	274,272.00	263,656.00	256,623.65	7,032.35
TEMP LOAN INTEREST	11,803.00	17,803.00	7,808.38	9,994.62
TEMP LOAN PRINCIPAL	188,696.00	126,924.00	0.00	126,924.00
STATE	0.00	0.00	677,622.00	-677,622.00
RETIREMENT - CONTRIBUTORY	1,376,414.00	1,350,185.00	1,350,185.00	0.00
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	50,500.00	50,500.00	19,829.80	30,670.20
CONTRIBUTORY GROUP INSURANCE	3,825,713.00	3,688,419.13	3,686,904.05	1,515.08
FICA/MEDICARE	232,033.00	232,033.00	203,535.09	28,497.91
SICK LEAVE/BUY-BACK	89,474.00	67,474.00	54,710.04	12,763.96
LIABILITY INSURANCE	418,411.00	467,494.81	467,494.81	0.00

Town of Rockport

Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Change in Fund Balance - Budgeted and Actual

Year=2015 and Date Range from 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2015 and Fund from '01' to '01'

TRANSFERS	260,551.59	260,551.59	260,551.59	0.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	26,777,232.59	28,005,833.49	26,769,879.36	1,235,954.13
FUND 01 GENERAL FUND TOTALS	-321,520.78	-1,550,121.68	538,813.45	-2,088,935.13
GRAND TOTAL	-321,520.78	-1,550,121.68	538,813.45	-2,088,935.13

Town of Rockport Fiscal 2015 CPA Expenses

Account	Description	Orig Bud	Carry Fwd	Amended	Final Bud	Expended	Unexpended Bal
27-178-5960-5968	CPA TRANSFER TO CON COMM TRUST			115,000.00	115,000.00	115,000.00	
27-178-3279-5786-09	AD3/09FTM WATERSHED PROTECTION		95,000.00		95,000.00		95,000.00
27-178-3387-5786-13	MILLBROOK PARK/POND FTM 9/13		84,480.38		84,480.38	83,425.33	1,055.05
27-178-3389-5786-13	PINGREE TENNIS CTS FTM 9/13		100,000.00		100,000.00	100,000.00	
27-178-3390-5786-13	WADDELL SKATEBOARD PK FTM 9/13		7,060.46		7,060.46	410.61	6,649.85
27-178-3400-5786-14	SCHOOL TENNIS COURTS FTM 9/14			33,394.00	33,394.00		33,394.00
27-178-3401-5786-14	RPKT CONSERVATION TRUST FUNDS FTM 9						
27-178-3404-5786-14	GRANITE PIER EXTENSION FTM 9/14			5,500.00	5,500.00	1,680.32	3,819.68
27-178-3407-5786-14	OLD GARDEN BEACH FENCE FTM 9/14			7,000.00	7,000.00		7,000.00
27-178-3408-5786-14	FRONT BEACH FTM 9/14			20,000.00	20,000.00		20,000.00
27-179-5200-5786	CPA ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES			38,262.00			
27-196-5960-5961	TRANFERS TO GENERAL FUND	-2,702.00			35,560.00	1,922.12	33,637.88
27-196-3209-5786-13	TOWN ART RESTORATION FTM 9/13	116,156.00			116,156.00	116,156.00	
27-196-3220-5786-10	AD7/10FTM OLD SLOOP BLDG		34,999.00		34,999.00	3,745.00	31,254.00
27-196-3299-5786-11	HP SCOUT HALL ART G2 FTM 9/11		9,439.99		9,439.99		9,439.99
27-196-3344-5786-12	AMERICAN LEGION BLD FTM 9/12		27,645.68		27,645.68		27,645.68
27-196-3344-5786-13	AMERICAN LEGION BLD FTM 9/13		34,028.78		34,028.78	34,028.78	
27-196-3391-5786-13	STRAITSMOUTH IS L THSE FTM 9/13		113,000.00		113,000.00	92,933.44	20,066.56
27-196-3393-5786-13	TWIN LT FESNEL LENS FTM 9/13		25,000.00		25,000.00		25,000.00
27-196-3394-5786-13	HISTORIC DIST EXP AND FTM 9/13		10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00	
27-196-3402-5786-14	BAPTIST CHURCH BLD FTM 9/14		30,000.00		30,000.00		30,000.00
27-196-3403-5786-14	UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST STEEPLE FTM			113,500.00	113,500.00	82,137.16	31,362.84
27-196-3405-5786-14	ROCKPORT ART ASSOCIATION FTM 9/14			220,000.00	220,000.00		220,000.00
27-197-3221-5786-12	GHA CAPE ANN HOME G6 FTM 9/11		374.15	137,130.00	137,130.00	107,346.92	29,783.08
27-197-3221-5786-14	GHA CAPE ANN HOME FTM 9/13		6,816.00		6,816.00	374.15	
27-197-3221-5786-13	ACTION RENTAL/MORTG ASST FTM 9/13		73,229.39		73,229.39	1,218.47	5,597.53
27-197-3406-5786-14	ACTION RENTAL/MORTGAGE ASST PROG FT			75,000.00	75,000.00	63,991.00	9,238.39
							75,000.00
Total		113,454.00	651,073.83	764,786.00	1,529,313.83	814,369.30	714,944.53

Town of Rockport

Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Change in Fund Balance - Budgeted and Actual

Year=2015 and Date Range from 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2015 and Fund from '60' to '60'

FUND 60 WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

REVENUE	Est Rev	Adj Est Rev	Actual YTD	Diff
PENALTIES AND INTEREST	0.00	0.00	9,442.30	-9,442.30
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	1,428,871.00	1,428,871.00	1,521,708.59	-92,837.59
UTILITY USAGE CHARGES	81,000.00	81,000.00	111,920.56	-30,920.56
OTHER UTILITY NON-USAGE CHRGS	14,000.00	14,000.00	50,464.96	-36,464.96
FEES	0.00	0.00	19,498.45	-19,498.45
REVENUE TOTALS	1,523,871.00	1,523,871.00	1,713,034.86	-189,163.86
EXPENSE	Orig Budget	Adjust Budget	Actual YTD	Diff
DPW - ADMIN LABOR	68,803.00	91,829.80	91,308.83	520.97
DPW - FIELD LABOR	477,345.00	481,565.10	481,436.40	128.70
DPW - OVERTIME	17,664.00	12,817.10	12,817.10	0.00
DPW - FUEL/LIGHT/POWER	173,609.00	173,609.00	99,488.72	74,120.28
DPW - EXPENSES	194,190.00	199,281.12	197,356.61	1,924.51
DPW ARTICLES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DPW ARTICLES	0.00	9,294.32	1,045.44	8,248.88
WATER	127,100.00	312,646.98	121,564.35	191,082.63
MATURING DEBT	161,736.00	161,736.00	121,000.00	40,736.00
MATURING DEBT INTEREST	40,522.00	40,522.00	39,717.90	804.10
TEMP LOAN INTEREST	1,146.00	1,146.00	1,527.78	-381.78
TEMP LOAN PRINCIPAL	28,125.00	5,725.00	0.00	5,725.00
TRANSFERS	436,060.00	436,060.00	436,060.00	0.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	1,726,300.00	1,926,232.42	1,603,323.13	322,909.29
FUND 60 WATER ENTERPRISE FUND TOTALS	-202,429.00	-402,361.42	109,711.73	-512,073.15
GRAND TOTAL	-202,429.00	-402,361.42	109,711.73	-512,073.15

Town of Rockport

Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Change in Fund Balance - Budgeted and Actual

Year=2015 and Date Range from 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2015 and Fund from '65' to '65'

FUND 65 SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

REVENUE	Est Rev	Adj Est Rev	Actual YTD	Diff
PENALTIES AND INTEREST	0.00	0.00	11,055.85	-11,055.85
UTILITY USAGE CHARGES	1,614,378.00	1,614,378.00	1,683,710.94	-69,332.94
OTHER UTILITY NON-USAGE CHRGS	37,000.00	37,000.00	6,000.00	31,000.00
UTILITY LIENS ADDED TO TAXES	52,375.00	52,375.00	142,599.93	-90,224.93
BETTERMENTS - APPORTIONED	0.00	0.00	362.33	-362.33
BETTERMENTS - COMM INTEREST	0.00	0.00	148.88	-148.88
BETTERMENTS PAID IN ADVANCE	0.00	0.00	694.60	-694.60
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	0.00	0.00	33,000.00	-33,000.00
INTERFUND TRANSFERS IN	0.00	0.00	200,000.00	-200,000.00
REVENUE TOTALS	1,703,753.00	1,703,753.00	2,077,572.53	-373,819.53
EXPENSE	Orig Budget	Adjust Budget	Actual YTD	Diff
DPW - ADMIN LABOR	71,909.00	97,935.80	94,416.42	3,519.38
DPW - FIELD LABOR	455,659.00	446,627.53	446,549.96	77.57
DPW - OVERTIME	16,495.00	21,899.67	21,899.67	0.00
DPW - FUEL/LIGHT/POWER	234,684.00	244,434.03	151,190.30	93,243.73
DPW - EXPENSES	245,878.00	240,463.20	230,827.63	9,635.57
SEWER	357,100.00	787,743.89	100,115.43	687,628.46
MATURING DEBT	205,503.00	195,754.00	175,000.00	20,754.00
MATURING DEBT INTEREST	79,216.00	79,216.00	75,653.77	3,562.23
TEMP LOAN INTEREST	1,247.00	1,247.00	2,062.50	-815.50
TEMP LOAN PRINCIPAL	12,651.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSFERS	391,271.00	391,271.00	402,509.00	-11,238.00
BUDGETARY ITEM	37,083.00	37,083.00	0.00	37,083.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	2,108,696.00	2,543,675.12	1,700,224.68	843,450.44
FUND 65 SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND TOTALS	-404,943.00	-839,922.12	377,347.85	-1,217,269.97
GRAND TOTAL	-404,943.00	-839,922.12	377,347.85	-1,217,269.97

CARRIE ARNAUD
Treasurer – Collector

Phone (978) 546-6648
Fax (978) 546-3236
Email:
carnaud@rockportma.gov



TOWN OF ROCKPORT
P.O. Box 150
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

January 4th, 2016

TO: The Citizens of Rockport, Massachusetts

FROM: Carrie Arnaud
Treasurer/Collector

The financial summary for Fiscal Year 2015, which ended June 30th, 2015, is presented below:

Treasurer's Cash (Including Trust Funds)	\$16,599,200.69
Summary of Trust Fund Activity	\$ 3,467,471.79
Bond Principal Payments in FY15	\$ 1,185,000.00
Bond Interest Payments in FY15	\$ 320,069.00
Bond Principal and Interest due in FY16	\$ 1,988,632.00
Report of Maturing Debt at 6-30-2015	\$12,231,000.00
Accounts Receivable Balances at 6-30-2015	\$ 1,315,676.01

Details are presented in the pages following this summary.

This information is unaudited.

TOWN OF ROCKPORT
Year Ending - JUNE 30, 2015

QUARTERLY REPORT OF RECONCILIATION OF TREASURER'S CASH

A. Cash and checks in office _____ -

B. Non-Interest Bearing Checking Accounts

Financial

Institution

Purpose

Balance

Total

_____ -

C. Interest Bearing Checking Accounts

Financial

Institution

Purpose

Balance

Century	Lockbox		6,497,883.71
Institution for Savings	Accounts Payable	1	60,826.40
Institution for Savings	Payroll	2	3,096.17
Institution for Savings	Money Market	3	745,228.23
Institution for Savings	Meter Account	5	767,217.62
Institution for Savings	Elementary School	6	37,389.49
Institution for Savings	Elem School Checking		0
Institution for Savings	Middle School	7	70,465.08
Institution for Savings	Middle School Checking		0
Institution for Savings	High School	8	169,041.01
Institution for Savings	High School Checking		0
Cape Ann Savings Bank	Library Building	10	29,828.95
Cape Ann Savings Bank	Revenue Sharing	11	22,329.77
Cape Ann Savings Bank	Money Market	12	1,823,053.59
Cape Ann Savings Bank	Nextel	13	32,799.70
Cape Ann Savings Bank	ConComm		4,224.53
Cape Ann Savings Bank	Meals Tax		194.23
Bank of America	Parking Clerk	14	464,512.42
Total			10,728,090.90

D. Liquid Investments

Financial

Institution

Number of Accounts

Balance

Century Bank	1	17	400,545.08
Citizens Investment A/C	1		0.15
Eastern Bank	1	19	1,853,614.62
Firstpswich MM	1		73,682.82
MMDT - Federated Investors	1	25	75,795.33
Total			2,403,638.00

E. Term Investments

Certificates of Deposits

Financial

Institution

Purpose

Balance

Century Bank	CofD #6		0
Citizens Bank	Trust Funds	22	0
Total			0.00

F. Trust Funds

Financial

Institution

Number of Accounts

Balance

Century Bank - Trust Funds	1	24	3,467,471.79
Total			3,467,471.79

TOTAL OF ALL CASH AND INVESTMENTS

16,599,200.69

TOWN OF ROCKPORT
SUMMARY OF TRUST FUND ACTIVITY
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

FUND	BALANCE 7/1/2014	TOTAL DEPOSITS	TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	INTEREST 6/30/2015	BALANCE 6/30/2015
CEMETERIES:					
Cemetery	318,145.56	0.00	0.00	796.28	318,941.84
Goldsmith Cemetery	7,329.54	0.00	0.00	18.34	7,347.88
Sub-total	325,475.10	0.00	0.00	814.62	326,289.72
CHARITY:					
Adams Charity	11,351.42	0.00	0.00	28.41	11,379.83
Bishop Charity	44,137.23	0.00	0.00	110.47	44,247.70
Kimball Charity	8,633.95	0.00	0.00	21.61	8,655.56
Sub-total	64,122.60	0.00	0.00	160.49	64,283.09
MISCELLANEOUS:					
Accrued Sick Leave & Vacation	111,005.31	0.00	0.00	277.83	111,283.14
Conservation	386,051.01	0.00	0.00	966.24	387,017.25
Charles Evans Christmas	3,505.18	0.00	500.00	8.10	3,013.28
Haskins Hospital	51,913.03	0.00	13,110.15	110.28	38,913.16
Haskins Hospital Auxiliary	12,738.48	0.00	0.00	31.88	12,770.36
Insurance	275,177.92	0.00	0.00	688.73	275,866.65
Liability Insurance	197,060.37	0.00	0.00	493.22	197,553.59
Warren Knight	68,416.65	0.00	0.00	171.24	68,587.89
Land Bank Trust Fund	47,776.69	0.00	0.00	119.57	47,896.26
Rockport Historical	36,197.92	0.00	0.00	90.60	36,288.52
Rockport Law Enforcement	1,322.25	0.00	0.00	3.31	1,325.56
Public Library	13,407.21	0.00	0.00	33.55	13,440.76
Stabilization	1,389,752.70	0.00	0.00	3,478.36	1,393,231.06
E. B. Tarr Memorial	25,107.28	0.00	125.93	62.70	25,044.05
Capital Reserve	175,349.32	0.00	0.00	438.88	175,788.20
OPEB	124,337.10	0.00	0.00	311.20	124,648.30
Sub-total	2,919,118.42	0.00	13,736.08	7,285.69	2,912,668.03
SCHOLARSHIPS:					
Ben Beyea Memorial Scholarship	1,396.28	0.00	1,000.00	3.40	399.68
R & C Burbank	4,384.35	0.00	0.00	10.97	4,395.32
John R. Carty	26.76	0.00	0.00	0.06	26.82
Nina Darcy	1,008.44	0.00	0.00	2.52	1,010.96
Duguid	2,545.28	0.00	0.00	6.37	2,551.65
Ruth S. Fears	1,199.80	0.00	0.00	3.01	1,202.81
Ethel M. Hiltz Memorial	30,943.12	0.00	500.00	77.40	30,520.52
Mary L. Houlihan	40,825.38	0.00	1,500.00	102.03	39,427.41
A. E. MacDowell	8,545.94	0.00	0.00	21.39	8,567.33
Beck Niemi	3,014.57	0.00	0.00	7.55	3,022.12
Reno Nastasi	4,260.14	200.00	150.00	10.72	4,320.86
Windy Wallace	6,110.50	0.00	0.00	15.30	6,125.80
Amy Winkler	14.36	0.00	0.00	0.03	14.39
Jane L. Larsen	3,650.19	0.00	0.00	9.13	3,659.32
Francis & Bessie Tarr Memorial	1,725.00	0.00	1,500.00	4.17	229.17
Charles Balestraci	4,989.63	0.00	500.00	12.44	4,502.07
Linda Weiditz	53.37	910.00	900.00	0.40	63.77
Aileen B Shaw	25,022.66	0.00	0.00	62.63	25,085.29
Sub-total	139,715.77	10,796.95	6,050.00	349.52	135,125.29
SCHOLARSHIPS:					
Thacher Island	17,848.90	0.00	0.00	11.12	17,860.02
Edward Zuker (Dock Sq)	6,946.37	0.00	0.00	4.33	6,950.70
Homestead (ConCom)	2,026.08	0.00	0.00	1.26	2,027.34
Old Colony Maritime (ConCom)	2,266.19	0.00	0.00	1.41	2,267.60
Sub-total	29,087.54	0.00	0.00	18.12	29,105.66
TOTAL	3,477,519.43	10,796.95	19,786.08	8,628.44	3,467,471.79

REPORT OF MATURING DEBT as of JUNE 30, 2015

PURPOSE	ORIGINAL ISSUE	BALANCE JULY 1, 2014	NEW ISSUE	REFUNDING	FISCAL	
					2015 PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	BALANCE JUNE 30, 2015
1.977M Multi Purpose	1,977,000.00	320,000.00			110,000.00	210,000.00
7.138M Gen Ob Bonds	7,138,000.00	4,955,000.00			455,000.00	4,500,000.00
6.155M Gen Ob Bonds	6,155,000.00	5,480,000.00			620,000.00	4,860,000.00
2.661 Gen Ob Bonds	2,661,000.00	-	2,661,000.00			2,661,000.00
TOTALS	17,931,000.00	10,755,000.00			1,185,000.00	12,231,000.00

BOND PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAID - FISCAL 2015						
PURPOSE	AUTHORITY	FISCAL DUE DATE	PAYING AGENT	FISCAL PAYMENTS		TOTAL
				PRINCIPAL	INTEREST	
1.977 GOB		1-Sep-14	US BANK		6,400.00	
		1-Mar-15	US BANK	110,000.00	4,200.00	120,600.00
7.138 GOB		1-Oct-14	US BANK		81,406.25	
		1-Apr-15	US BANK	455,000.00	81,406.25	617,812.50
6.155M GOB	Chap. 44, Sec 7	15-Sep-14	US BANK		76,428.13	
		15-Mar-15	US BANK	620,000.00	70,228.13	766,656.26
2.661 Gen Ob Bonds		1-Aug-14	US BANK		-	
		1-Feb-15	US BANK		51,926.56	51,926.56
TOTALS				1,185,000.00	371,995.32	1,556,995.32

BOND PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYMENTS DUE - FISCAL 2016						
PURPOSE	AUTHORITY	FISCAL DUE DATE	PAYING AGENT	FISCAL PAYMENTS		TOTAL
				PRINCIPAL	INTEREST	
1.977 GOB		1-Sep-15 1-Mar-16	US BANK	110,000.00	4,200.00 2,000.00	116,200.00
7.138 GOB		1-Oct-15 1-Apr-16	US BANK US BANK	455,000.00	76,856.25 76,856.75	608,713.00
6.155M GOB	Chap. 44, Sec 7	15-Sep-15 15-Mar-16	US BANK US BANK	610,000.00	70,228.13 61,077.87	741,306.00
2.661M GOB	Chap. 44, Sec 7	1-Aug-15 1-Feb-16	US BANK US BANK	421,000.00	55,968.75 45,444.25	522,413.00
TOTALS				1,596,000.00	392,632.00	1,988,632.00

**TOWN OF ROCKPORT
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE FISCAL YEAR 2015**

ACCOUNT TITLE	BALANCE 7/1/2014	COMMITTED	COLLECTED	ABATED	REFUNDED	TO LIENS & TAX TITLE	ADJUSTMENTS	BALANCE 6/30/2015
2015 CPA Tax	0.00	232,375.20	226,312.83	542.03			(329.87)	5,850.21
2014 CPA TAX	8,415.38		7,655.14		950.13			1,677.51
2013 CPA TAX	100.75							100.75
2015 REAL ESTATE	8,516.13	232,375.20	233,967.97	574.89	950.13	0.00	-329.87	7,628.47
2014 REAL ESTATE	399,777.95	19,677,755.39	19,330,692.17	68,235.80	20,391.35		(1,694.96)	300,913.73
2013 REAL ESTATE	5,582.24		418,456.78	7,052.20	62,074.62	18,117.67	(1,121.80)	19,347.72
				1,621.30			-	3,960.94
2015 PERSONAL PROP	405,360.19	19,677,755.39	19,749,148.95	76,909.30	82,465.97	18,117.67	-2,816.76	324,222.33
	0.00	179,093.86	169,231.22	12,689.71	5,748.44		7.24	2,914.13
2014 PERSONAL PROP	5,668.24		3,647.37	320.29				1,700.58
2013 PERSONAL PROP	2,585.83		850.65					1,735.18
2012 PERSONAL PROP	1,925.37		20.45					1,904.92
2011 PERSONAL PROP	2,065.58		(316.20)					2,381.78
2010 PERSONAL PROP	2,044.05		387.30					1,656.75
2015 MOTOR VEHICLE	14,289.07	179,093.86	173,820.79	13,010.00	5,748.44	0.00	7.24	12,293.34
	0.00	822,682.86	760,961.17	12,135.79	6,916.16		-421.67	56,923.73
2014 MOTOR VEHICLE	44,899.04	78,047.90	112,328.36	6,513.76	7,856.37		0.36	11,960.83
2013 MOTOR VEHICLE	10,624.78		7,289.06	808.35	759.33			3,286.70
2012 MOTOR VEHICLE	3,902.82		1,396.44					2,506.38
2011 MOTOR VEHICLE	4,225.44		376.48					3,848.96
2010 MOTOR VEHICLE	3,472.45		192.71					3,279.74
2015 BOAT EXCISE	67,124.53	900,730.76	882,544.22	19,457.90	15,531.86	0.00	-421.31	81,806.34
	0.00	12,685.00	10,463.86	792.00				1,429.14
2014 BOAT EXCISE	705.76		155.41					550.35
2013 BOAT EXCISE	379.05		101.00					278.05
2012 BOAT EXCISE	355.12		25.00					330.12
2011 BOAT EXCISE	248.95		(0.05)					249.00
2010 BOAT EXCISE	575.00							575.00
	2,263.88	12,685.00	10,745.22	792.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,411.66

TOWN OF ROCKPORT									
ACCOUNT TITLE	BALANCE 7/1/2014	COMMITTED	COLLECTED	ABATED	REFUNDED	TO LIENS & TAX TITLE	ADJUSTMENTS	BALANCE 6/30/2015	
WATER A/R	140,531.25	1,667,285.00	1,526,069.01	24,824.76	3,534.92	96,810.78	(860.21)	164,506.83	
SEWER A/R	177,991.64	1,863,203.05	1,684,744.98	26,693.18	569.96	120,182.99	(392.37)	210,535.87	
WATER MISC	205.79	4,410.00	4,146.47			292.63		176.69	
WATER LIENS	6,528.07	110,738.57	103,747.49		88.53		(1,016.20)	14,623.88	
SEWER LIENS	9,860.42	137,104.15	144,204.96		124.49		(1,480.54)	4,364.64	
DEFERRED TAXES	95,705.87		32,795.63					62,910.24	
TAX TITLE	168,740.28	22,659.12	58,464.96					132,934.44	
HARBOR MOORINGS	17,520.10	123,854.60	96,719.00	1,537.00				43,118.70	
PIGEON COVE USERS	6,595.20	37,256.60	29,585.20	864.90				13,401.70	
LAND LEASE RENTS	52,780.87	245,582.81	277,687.90	99.24				20,576.54	
LONG BEACH RENTS	5,950.49	617,581.00	618,379.26	5,311.00				-158.77	
WHARF RENTS	1,051.60	4,442.93	4,326.53	400.00				768.00	
GRANITE PIER STALLS	5,823.30	24,812.80	21,769.70	964.00				7,902.40	
MEDICOMPTS - AMBULANCE	130,596.75	419,578.14	215,875.46	182,662.10				151,637.33	
LIEU OF TAXES	0.00	13,097.87						13,097.87	
MARMION WAY BETTERMENT	4,959.39		694.60				2,060.84	2,203.95	
EDEN ROAD IMPROVEMENT	52950.89		773.00				8,464.39	43,713.50	
	877,791.91	5,291,606.64	4,819,984.15	243,356.18	4,317.90	217,286.40	6,775.91	886,313.81	
TOTALS	1,375,345.71	26,294,246.85	25,870,211.30	354,100.27	109,014.30	235,404.07	3,215.21	1,315,676.01	

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN CLERK
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2015**



Town Clerk's Report	B 2
Warrant for Special Town Meeting, April 4, 2015	B 3
Special Town Meeting Minutes, April 4, 2015	B 7
Warrant for Annual Town Meeting, April 4, 2015	B 13
Annual Town Meeting Minutes, April 4, 2015	B 21
Warrant for Annual Town Election, May 5, 2015	B 39
Annual Town Election Results, May 5, 2015	B 41
Warrant Fall Town Meeting September 14, 2015	B 43
Fall Town Meeting Minutes, September 14, 2015	B 50
2015 Oaths of Office	B 67

Board of Selectmen
Town Office Building
Rockport, MA 01966

Dear Selectmen:

The acts and doings of the Town Clerk's office for the year 2015 from January 1st to December 31st are as follows:

It has been another very busy year in the Clerk's office. A request was put into the Capital Improvement Planning Committee (CIPC) to purchase tabulators to replace the antiquated ballot boxes that Rockport has been using for many, many years. The CIPC turned the request down so after careful consideration the budget was held on Town Meeting floor and was amended to include the price of three (3) tabulators. The Finance Committee after thoughtful consideration decided to fund the tabulators through free cash so long as the expenditure was approved by Town Meeting. I am very thankful to Town Meeting because the funds were approved. Tabulators were used at the Annual Town Election eliminating the need to hand count ballots. Unofficial results of the election were known within 15 minutes of the close of the polls. There will be 4 elections coming up in the year 2016 and these machines will be very valuable to the election process for many years to come.

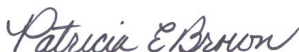
The State has been very busy working with cities and towns to come into the modern age of technology. Presently birth and death records are created and submitted electronically. This eliminates the need for copying paper records and submitting them via mail. Records are completed quicker and available sooner. Rockport has been very pro-active in preserving its records. This year many old deeds and leases were brought into the light. The Clerk's office in an effort to understand what is filed away in the vault has been scanning old records and indexing them. This has proved very useful for contractors and attorneys looking for easement information on properties.

The only election in Rockport this year was the local election. I would like to thank all the poll workers; registrars, wardens, deputy wardens, clerks and counters for their attendance in the training workshops that were held for the new tabulators. This new technology has been received with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. The local election was held on May 5, 2015 using these new machines. The turnout was very good with 1,989 people voting or a turnout of 36.63%. Registered voters at the time were a total of 5,280, with 9 members in the United Independent Party, 1,351 Democrats, 4 Green-Rainbow, 527 Republicans, 3,370 Unenrolled and 19 people enrolled in Political Designations. The town re-elected Wilhelmina Moores and Sarah Wilkinson to the Board of Selectmen, re-elected Timothy W. Good, IV to the Board of Assessors, re-elected Cameron L. Smith to the Planning Board, re-elected Lana Razdan to the Trustee of Public Library, and Heather Jean Nelson and Rebecca Mead Sly to the School Committee. There are presently four parties represented in the State of Massachusetts, those parties are Republican, Democrat, Green-Rainbow and United Independent. The United Independent Party has confused many voters who call themselves Independent when in fact they are Unenrolled voters.

The Special Town Meeting held on Saturday, April 4th began at 9:08 AM and dissolved at 9:49 AM. The Annual Town Meeting held on Saturday, April 4th began at 9:50 AM and dissolved at 2:55 PM. The Special Fall Town Meeting held on Monday, September 14th began at 7:12 PM and dissolved Monday September 14th at 11:22 PM. The town meeting minutes included in this Annual Town Report are in an encapsulated form. If you are interested in minutes that are in more detail they are available through the Town Clerk's Office and on the town website.

The population according to the 2015 Annual Town Census was 7,029 which is down 81 residents from last year's figure of 7,110. Fees collected from outside sources and submitted to the Town Treasurer for 2015 were \$12,306.00 which includes dog license fees.

To date, vital statistics are recorded as follows: Births – male 21, female 15, Deaths – male 45, female 56, Marriages – in town 23, elsewhere 4.



Patricia E. Brown
Town Clerk

TOWN of ROCKPORT
WARRANT for
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Saturday, April 4, 2015
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To: One of the Constables of the Town of Rockport, Massachusetts in said County of Essex in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

GREETINGS: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet and assemble at the Rockport High School at 24 Jerden's Lane in said Rockport on Saturday, the fourth day of April, 2015 A.D., at 9:00 o'clock in the morning, then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

- ARTICLE A. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds sums of money to be expended by various Town Departments to balance the FY15 budget; or act on anything relative thereto.
- ARTICLE B. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay unpaid bills and payroll of previous years; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Town Accountant) (requires 9/10 vote)*
- ARTICLE C. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer the unexpended amount of \$19,611.13 from funds that were initially borrowed as authorized in Article 6A of the April 9, 2012 Annual Town Meeting to finance the Water Filtration Plant Generator Upgrade capital project that is now complete, and for which no further liability remains, to pay costs of water main replacements and upgrades, including the purchase of the water main pipe material as well as hydrants, valves and other associated materials needed for water main work, as permitted by Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works)*
- ARTICLE D. To see if the Town will vote to close the Carlson's Quarry Dam Inspection account voted as Article E at the April 3, 2010 Special Town Meeting and appropriate by transfer the remaining unexpended funds in the amount of \$26,301.50 to the Water Treatment Plant Capital Improvements account for the purpose of carrying out capital improvement projects for the Water Treatment Plant facilities; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works)*
- ARTICLE E. To see if the Town will vote to establish a special revolving fund, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to be known as the Net Metering Credit Receipts Revolving Fund, to which shall be credited receipts received from National Grid, by whatever name, in connection with the Town's purchase of net metering credits as a Host Customer under a 2012 agreement with Berkeley Real Estate, LLC, or either of their successors or assigns, and from which monies may be expended without further appropriation for the purpose of meeting the Town's obligations to Berkeley under said 2012 agreement, in an amount not exceeding \$525,000 in FY2016;

and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation in the form set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to such bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NET METERING CREDIT
RECEIPTS FUND IN THE TOWN OF ROCKPORT

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 53E½ of chapter 44 of the general laws, or of any other general or special law to the contrary, there shall be established in the town of Rockport a special revolving fund to be known as the Net Metering Credit Receipts Fund, to which shall be credited all receipts received from an electric utility or its affiliate, successor or assign, in connection with said town's purchase of net metering credits from the operator of a net metering facility as a host customer, whether under a 2012 agreement with Berkeley Real Estate, LLC, or otherwise ("Agreement"), and from which monies may be expended by the director of public works without further appropriation for the purpose of meeting said town's obligations under such Agreement; provided, however, that the Rockport town meeting shall annually impose a limit on expenditures from the fund in an amount equal to that estimated by the electric utility to be provided to said town as net metering credits, and further that any monies in said special fund not needed to meet the town's obligations under the Agreement may be transferred or appropriated by town meeting for any legal purpose. The fund authorized hereunder may exceed the limit described in said section 53E½ of 1 per cent of the amount raised by taxation in the most recent year for which a tax rate has been certified, and shall not be included to determine the aggregate limit of all revolving funds authorized under said section 53E½ of said chapter 44.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

ARTICLE F.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer the sum of \$20,000 from the School Roof account to the Library Fire Escape Construction account for the purpose of providing additional funds needed to install three new code-compliant fire escapes at the library; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

ARTICLE G. To see if the Town will vote to expend the additional sum of \$96,374 allocated to the Town under the provisions of Section 34(2)(a) of M.G.L. Ch.90 or otherwise, so-called "Chapter 90 monies"; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

ARTICLE H. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer to FY2015 Snow and Ice accounts for the purpose of decreasing the unprecedented deficit in such accounts such sums as specified from the appropriations originally approved under Article 6 of the April 6, 2013 and April 2, 2011 Annual Town Meetings, as follows, and further, to close said accounts:

- \$40,000 from the Pigeon Cover Fire Station Repairs account;
- \$20,000 from the Fire Station Additional Repairs account;
- \$45,000 from the Fire Station Electrical account;

or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies of the same at each of the Post Offices, and in other public places in each village of the Town, fourteen days at least before the day of the holding of said SPECIAL TOWN MEETING.

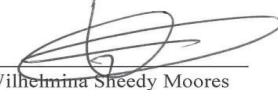
Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk three days, at least, before Saturday, April 4, 2015.

Given under our hands and seal of the Town this 16th day of March 2015, A.D.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF ROCKPORT



Sarah J. Wilkinson, Chair




Wilhelmina Sheedy Moores



Paul Murphy




Erin M. Battistelli



Eliza N. Lucas

A True Copy
ATTEST:



Mark T. Rowe
Constable of the Town of Rockport

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Essex, ss.

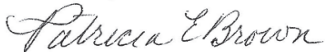
Rockport, MA
March 18, 2015

I, Philip D. Wesley, III, *Constable* of the *Town of Rockport*, have on this date *March 18, 2015*, posted the *Annual Town Meeting Warrant* for the *Annual Town Meeting* to be held *Saturday, April 4, 2015*, at the *Rockport High School*, in the two *Post Offices*, the *Town Bulletin Board* and *Seventeen (17)* other *Public Places* throughout the Town including three (3) in *Precinct One*, three (3) in *Precinct Two* and three (3) in *Precinct Three*.



Constable of the Town of Rockport

RECEIVED: 11:55 AM
Town Clerk's Office
Rockport, MA 01966



Patricia E. Brown
Town Clerk

Town of Rockport
Special Town Meeting
Saturday, April 4, 2015
Rockport High School

MODERATOR: (9:08AM) Ladies and gentlemen we are about to begin. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls welcome to the Rowell auditorium or arena and to our town meeting. We are actually going to have two town meetings this morning.

Quenton Hurst gloriously sang our National Anthem. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Reverend Matt Wigton of the First Baptist Church gave the invocation.

REVEREND WIGTON: Gracious, eternal God in pausing at the beginning of this meeting we thank you for the gift of life and the gift of living together within community. We thank you for the remarkable village that you placed us in and all the individuals who make up the Town of Rockport. We thank you for your provision that has guided us through a difficult winter and brought us to the dawn of spring. We pray particularly for those with various needs in our community and pray that we would aspire towards the common good seeking the welfare of others before ourselves. We thank you for the past and present people of this town and ask for your continued blessing upon it. As we come to address the matters of town business we recognize our responsibility to be stewards of the assets that you've given us. May we indeed be faithful responding to the matters and people you've placed within our care. We pray you give us wisdom and clarity in discussing and deciding the matters on today's agenda and even in cases where we may disagree with one another. May we practice patience, consideration, charity and kindness as we work towards excellence both in our character and execution of our town business. We pray this in God's name. Amen.

Ruth Maasen, Poet Laureate for the Town of Rockport.

The Blizzards of 2015

The storms crawled by with fearsome power,
snow blowing sideways hour after hour.

Shovel a shovel-wide path to the door.
Oops, snowed again! Shovel once more.

Dig out the driveway, the car—what a slog.
Dig a path to the hydrant, dig a path for the dog.

Heave the snow high up over your head.
Try to forget what the weatherman said:

Another one's coming! *Man oh man.*
With a bull's-eye painted right on Cape Ann.

There go the plows scraping and rumbling
all through the night—we shouldn't be grumbling,

we're snug in our beds, while the heroic
crew on the roads, exhausted but stoic,

battle the stuff coming out of the sky,
ton after ton, but they never say die.

Another one's coming! Can we hope for
a break between blizzards to get to the store?

No train, no T, no parking, no walking
the kids stir-crazy, the grouch not talking.

Trapped in a snow globe! *Let me out, let me out!*
the snowsick, slap-happy denizens shout.

At least we broke the record snowfall,
though that doesn't begin to make up for it all.

The leftover filthy snow piled up high
no doubt will melt by the Fourth of July.

So step aside, Blizzard of '78.
You've had your day, you really did rate,

but you weren't as gargantuan and messy and mean
as the Blizzards of 2015.

SELECTWOMAN ERIN BATTISTELLI: Good morning. This is extra special because my dad spent many years on the Finance Committee Frank, so I know how much effort goes into that committee. This is a Resolution of Appreciation for Frank L. Hassler:

*Resolution of Appreciation
for
Frank L. Hassler*

WHEREAS: **Frank Hassler** and his wife, Elaine, lived in Rockport for the summers beginning in 1978, and moved permanently to town in 1992, and;

WHEREAS: He studied at Yale University and Brown University achieving his PhD in Physics, and;

WHEREAS: He retired to Rockport from the position of Director of the Office of Transport and Information Resources in the U.S. Department of Transportation in Cambridge, MA. He had moved there after working at several positions in the Defense Department in Washington most recently at the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he was a designer of the National Military Command and Control System, and;

WHEREAS: He was appointed to the Granite Pier Committee in 2001 where he assisted with record keeping and mailings, and;

WHEREAS: He was appointed to the Finance Committee in 2002, and;

WHEREAS: He used his time and expertise in service to the Town in redesigning the Town's budget and financial control systems. He used those systems to create and operate the financial budgets presented to and voted by Town Meeting voters for several years, and;

WHEREAS: He spent considerable time and effort to educate members of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and the School Committee in the essence and details of the budget and its process, and;

WHEREAS: He served as an advisor to several negotiating committees who were working on settling union contracts, and;

WHEREAS: He became an expert in Massachusetts municipal laws and regulations as they apply to the Town of Rockport, becoming the "go-to" authority for many of the town volunteers, and;

WHEREAS: He served twelve years on the Finance Committee, stepping down in May, 2014.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Rockport, Massachusetts on this 24th day of February, 2015, do hereby adopt this Resolution of Appreciation in honor of Frank L. Hassler on behalf of the citizens of Rockport for his thirteen years of outstanding service to our town, and that a copy of this Resolution be kept as a part of our permanent government records.



Sarah J. Wilkinson, Chairperson



Paul F. Murphy, Member



Wilhelmina Shеды Moores, Vice – Chairperson



Erin M. Battistelli, Member



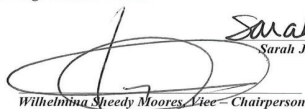
Elida N. Lucas, Member

FRANK HASSLER: Thank you. WOW that's a lot of whereas and now, therefore. My thanks to the Board of Selectmen and to all of you. It's been a privilege and a pleasure to serve. I was raised in the belief that public service is a responsibility and duty of each citizen. I'm proud to have been part of that type of effort attempting to manage the town's finances often in very difficult times. It's a great deal of work that requires a lot of effort on the part of each and every member of the Finance Committee, all of the town officials and the many, many volunteers who truly keep this town going. I'm proud to have been a part of it.

***Resolution of Appreciation
for
Chief John T. McCarthy***

- WHEREAS: **John T. McCarthy** grew up in Rockport on Oakland Avenue, and;
- WHEREAS: He began his service with the Town of Rockport as a captain of the Rockport Forest Fire Department in 1973, as a seasonal police officer in 1977 and became a permanent intermittent officer in 1978, appointed a full-time officer in 1984. He graduated from the Massachusetts State Police Academy finishing number 1 in his class, promoted to sergeant in 1987, acting chief in 1997, and was appointed police chief in September 1998, and;
- WHEREAS: He introduced a new community policing philosophy within the department, rebuilding relationships throughout the community, and;
- WHEREAS: He served as a drug investigator with Cape Ann Regional Drug Task Force for 4 years, and received a commendation from the DEA for his outstanding work, served on three building committees for the town including the new police headquarters that opened in 2004. The Rockport Police Department was the tenth police department in the Commonwealth to obtain certification from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission in 2003, full accreditation in 2005, and successful reaccreditation three times after that with the most recent in October 2014, and;
- WHEREAS: After several years of planning and coordinating efforts, the town approved the \$3 million construction project for a new police headquarters in 2001 in which he utilized his engineering background during the construction phase when he served as the liaison with the contractor and the town, and;
- WHEREAS: He was a member of the Essex County Chiefs of Police Association, served as secretary, vice president and president, the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the New England Chiefs of Police Association, and;
- WHEREAS: He promoted the development of many community outreach programs and efforts initiated by his officers including the creation of senior citizen programs, the establishment of the police memorial, the development of the Cape Ann Regional Response team, the creation of an annual holiday lunch with elementary school students in a precedent-setting relationship between young school students and police officers, the appointment of a school resource officer, reorganization of the hierarchy within the police department by instituting a lieutenants position, promoting the pursuit of grants that modernized the department, and;
- WHEREAS: He has received numerous commendations and letters of appreciation, including employee of the year from the Town of Rockport in 2010, recognition from the Office of the Secretary of Defense as a patriotic employer, and;
- WHEREAS: He served 37 years on the Police Department, 17 of those years as Chief of Police, retiring on October 31, 2014.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Rockport, Massachusetts on this 27th day of January, 2015, do hereby adopt this Resolution of Appreciation in honor of Chief John T. McCarthy on behalf of the citizens of Rockport for his 37 years of outstanding service to our town, and that a copy of this Resolution be kept as a part of our permanent government records.


Sarah J. Wilkinson, Chairperson

Wilhelmina Steedy Moores, Vice-Chairperson


Paul F. Murphy, Public Safety Liaison


Erin M. Battistelli, Member

Eliza N. Lucas, Member

CHIEF TOM MCCARTHY: Thank you. I want to first thank the honorable Board of Selectmen and the previous boards that I've worked with. I consider myself probably one of the most fortunate chiefs in the Cape Ann area for sure. I've always had tremendous support from the board and I really appreciate it as well as the Finance Committee, working with them over the years they've supported us to develop all these programs that you just heard about so I consider myself very, very fortunate to be the Chief of Police in Rockport for 17 years. But what I want to thank is the people that supported us as well. The Public Safety in Rockport including the Fire Department, Ambulance is spectacular, DPW what a job they did this winter. Unbelievable. (Applause) But most of all I want to thank my family, my wife Gail, my daughters Haley, Sabrina, my son Michael. It's very difficult for young people to grow up in a small community like Rockport with their father being the Chief of Police (laughter) but they're spectacular kids and I've been very, very fortunate. I want to thank the community for everything they've done for me. Thank you.

TOWN CLERK PATRICIA BROWN: We remember those who passed on in the year 2014:

Robert P. Aspesi
John E. Bennett
Marguerite H. Brown
Hope Coffman

Albert V. Dapolito
 Eleanore A. Fisher
 Frederick R. Grover
 Marion A. Horgan
 Mary “Tina” C. Ketchopulos
 Miriam E. Lane
 Beverly Quint
 Ann Sheinwald
 John W. Sparks
 Margery M. Story

Town Clerk Patricia Brown read the Officer’s Return.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article A.

ARTICLE A(1)To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds sums of money to be expended by various Town Departments to balance the FY15 budget; or act on anything relative thereto.

Amount	From	To
\$110,000	Group Health Insurance	Snow & Ice Expenses
\$ 5,000	Town Accountant Salary	Veterans Agent Assessment
\$ 5,000	Town Accountant Salary	Legal Fees
\$ 20,000	Selectmen Misc Receipts (Legal Settlement)	Legal Fees
\$ 11,238	Betterments Marmion Way	Essex Regional VoTec Assmnt
\$ 60,000	Parking Meter Fund	Parking Meters Account
\$ 25,000	Town Hall Air Conditioners Account	Library Building - Bathrooms
\$ 40,000	Group Health Insurance	Snow & Ice Overtime
\$ 1,960	Selectmen Printing	Assessor Clerk Wages
\$ 633	Selectmen Printing	Council on Aging Clerk Wages

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article B.

ARTICLE B(2)To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay unpaid bills and payroll of previous years; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Town Accountant) (requires 9/10 vote)*

Amount	From	To
\$1,000.00	Ambulance Medical Expenses	Beverly Hospital
\$ 468.53	Fire Engineer Expenses	R.E. Paradis Marine & Equip
\$2,052.36	Bedrock Wells Account	Dewbury Engineers, Inc.
\$ 25.00	DPW Other Purchased Services	Quadrant Health
\$ 25.00	Sewer Enterprise Other Purchased Services	Quadrant Health

It was moved, second and unanimously carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article C.

ARTICLE C(3) To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer the unexpended amount of \$19,611.13 from funds that were initially borrowed as authorized in Article 6A of the April 9, 2012 Annual Town Meeting to finance the Water Filtration Plant Generator Upgrade capital project that is now complete, and for which no further liability remains, to pay costs of water main replacements and upgrades, including the purchase of the water main pipe material as well as hydrants, valves and other associated materials needed for water main work, as permitted by Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works)*

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article D.

ARTICLE D(4)To see if the Town will vote to close the Carlson’s Quarry Dam Inspection account voted as Article E at the April 3, 2010 Special Town Meeting and appropriate by transfer the remaining unexpended funds in the amount of \$26,301.50 to the Water Treatment Plant Capital Improvements account for the purpose of carrying out capital improvement projects for the Water Treatment Plant

facilities; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works)*

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article E.

ARTICLE E(5): To see if the Town will vote to establish a special revolving fund, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to be known as the Net Metering Credit Receipts Revolving Fund, to which shall be credited receipts received from National Grid, by whatever name, in connection with the Town's purchase of net metering credits as a Host Customer under a 2012 agreement with Berkeley Real Estate, LLC, or either of their successors or assigns, and from which monies may be expended without further appropriation for the purpose of meeting the Town's obligations to Berkeley under said 2012 agreement, in an amount not exceeding \$525,000 in FY2016; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation in the form set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to such bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NET METERING CREDIT RECEIPTS FUND IN THE TOWN OF ROCKPORT

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 53E½ of chapter 44 of the general laws, or of any other general or special law to the contrary, there shall be established in the town of Rockport a special revolving fund to be known as the Net Metering Credit Receipts Fund, to which shall be credited all receipts received from an electric utility or its affiliate, successor or assign, in connection with said town's purchase of net metering credits from the operator of a net metering facility as a host customer, whether under a 2012 agreement with Berkeley Real Estate, LLC, or otherwise ("Agreement"), and from which monies may be expended by the director of public works without further appropriation for the purpose of meeting said town's obligations under such Agreement; provided, however, that the Rockport town meeting shall annually impose a limit on expenditures from the fund in an amount equal to that estimated by the electric utility to be provided to said town as net metering credits, and further that any monies in said special fund not needed to meet the town's obligations under the Agreement may be transferred or appropriated by town meeting for any legal purpose. The fund authorized hereunder may exceed the limit described in said section 53E½ of 1 per cent of the amount raised by taxation in the most recent year for which a tax rate has been certified, and shall not be included to determine the aggregate limit of all revolving funds authorized under said section 53E½ of said chapter 44. SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works)*

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article F.

ARTICLE F(6): To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer the sum of \$20,000 from the School Roof account to the Library Fire Escape Construction account for the purpose of providing additional funds needed to install three new code-compliant fire escapes at the library; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works)*

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article G.

ARTICLE G(7): To see if the Town will vote to expend the additional sum of \$96,374 allocated to the Town under the provisions of Section 34(2)(a) of M.G.L. Ch.90 or otherwise, so-called "Chapter 90 monies"; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works)*

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article H.

ARTICLE H(8): To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer to FY2015 Snow and Ice accounts for the purpose of decreasing the unprecedented deficit in such accounts such sums as specified from the appropriations originally approved under Article 6 of the April 6, 2013 and April 2, 2011 Annual Town Meetings, as follows, and further, to close said accounts:

- \$40,000 from the Pigeon Cover Fire Station Repairs account;

- \$20,000 from the Fire Station Additional Repairs account;
 - \$45,000 from the Fire Station Electrical account;
- or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

Amount	From	To
\$40,000	Pigeon Cove Fire Station Repairs, A6/13	Snow & Ice Expenses
\$20,000	Fire Station Additional Repairs, A6/13	Snow & Ice Expenses
\$45,000	Fire Station Electrical, A6/11	Snow & Ice Overtime

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion to dissolve the Special Town Meeting.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The meeting dissolved at 9:49AM.

**TOWN of ROCKPORT
WARRANT for
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Saturday, April 4, 2015
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Essex, ss. To: One of the Constables of the Town of Rockport, Massachusetts in
said County of Essex in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

GREETINGS: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet and assemble at the Rockport High School at 24 Jerden's Lane in said Rockport on Saturday, the fourth day of April, 2015 A.D., at 9:30 o'clock in the morning, then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

- ARTICLE 1. To choose an agent for the various trust funds of the Town and to choose all other necessary Town Officers in such a manner as the Town may direct; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)
- ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to rescind any one or more of the authorizations previously given to borrow funds for municipal purposes, excluding always, any and all authorizations that have been executed by a borrowing; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Town Treasurer*)
- ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous years; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Town Accountant*) (*requires 4/5 vote*)
- ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to amend or revise certain compensation schedules as set forth by the Rockport Personnel Board and on file in the Town Clerk's Office, which are incorporated herein by reference, namely:
- A. Compensation Schedules A, B, D and H for salaried employees; and
- B. Compensation Schedule C for elected officials;
- or act on anything relative thereto. (*Personnel Board*)
- ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for any or all Town expenses and purposes, including, without limiting the foregoing, debt and interest, out-of-state travel, wages and salaries, operation of the Town's departments and offices, and provide for a reserve fund, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Finance Committee*)

- 5A. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for any and all Town expenses and purposes including, without limiting the foregoing, debt and interest, out-of-state travel, wages and salaries, operation of the Town's Water Enterprise and provide for a reserve fund, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)*
- 5B. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for any and all Town expenses and purposes including, without limiting the foregoing, debt and interest, out-of-state travel, wages and salaries, operation of the Town's Sewer Enterprise and provide for a reserve fund, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)*

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for Capital Outlay Items, such sums of money as set forth in the schedule prepared by the Finance Committee, or any other sum or sums, a copy of which schedule is on file in the Town Clerk's Office, and which is incorporated herein by reference, and determine whether such sums will be raised by fees, taxation, transferred from available funds, provided by borrowing, or by any combination of the foregoing; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee) (requires 2/3 vote)*

- 6A. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for Capital Outlay Items for the Water Enterprise, sums of money as set forth in the schedule prepared by the Finance Committee, or any other sum or sums, a copy of which schedule is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and which is incorporated herein by reference, and determine whether such sums will be raised by fees, taxation, transferred from available funds, provided by borrowing, or by any combination of the foregoing; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)*
- 6B. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for Capital Outlay Items for the Sewer Enterprise, sums of money as set forth in the schedule prepared by the Finance Committee, or any other sum or sums, a copy of which schedule is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and which is incorporated herein by reference, and determine whether such sums will be raised by fees, taxation, transferred from available funds, provided by borrowing, or by any combination of the foregoing; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)*

ARTICLES: *Lottery System*

- ARTICLE A. To see if the Town will vote to expend the a sum of money allocated to the Town under the provisions of Section 34(2)(a) of M.G.L. Ch.90 or otherwise, so-called "Chapter 90 monies"; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)
- ARTICLE B. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$4,000 or any other sum, for Action, Inc.; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)
- ARTICLE C. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,000 or any other sum, for Healing Abuse Working for Change (HAWC); or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)
- ARTICLE D. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,100 or any other sum, for SeniorCare, Inc.; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)
- ARTICLE E. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,000 or any other sum, for The Open Door; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)
- ARTICLE F. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the fiscal years 2014, 2015, and 2016 cost items contained in the collective bargaining agreements between the Town of Rockport and the Rockport MassCOP, Local 154 (Patrol Officers Unit); with the agreement covering the term of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*) (*majority vote*)
- ARTICLE G. To see if the Town will vote to close the Financial Management Capital account and appropriate by transfer the remaining unexpended funds to the Financial Management System Contract account for the purpose of paying the first annual license fee for the financial management system software; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)
- ARTICLE H. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$75,000 to pay for state mandated real and personal property revaluations; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)
- ARTICLE I. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from Free Cash a sum of money to the General Stabilization fund to pay for future expenditures; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)

- ARTICLE J. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from Free Cash a sum of money to the Capital Reserve Stabilization fund to pay for future capital expenditures; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)
- ARTICLE K. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from Free Cash a sum money to the Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund created under Article N of the April 3, 2010 Annual Town Meeting to cover future benefit obligations to retired employees; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)
- ARTICLE L. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to the SPED Stabilization fund to pay for future Special Education obligations; or act on anything relative thereto. (*School Committee*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)
- ARTICLE M. To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ the Community House revolving fund as voted in Article H of the September 8, 2014 Town Meeting to which receipts received in connection with use of the Community House shall be deposited and may be expended by the Director of Public Works for Community House building maintenance purposes, said sum not to exceed a certain amount in FY2016; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)
- ARTICLE N. To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ the School Transportation revolving fund as voted in Article E of the September 8, 1997 Town Meeting to which receipts received in connection with use of non-mandated School Transportation services shall be deposited and may be expended by the School Superintendent for non-mandated school transportation purposes, said sum not to exceed a certain amount in FY2016; or act on anything relative thereto. (*School Committee*)
- ARTICLE O. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of General Laws Chapter 64L, Section 2(a) authorizing the Town to impose a local sales tax at the statutory rate of .75% on the sale of restaurant meals originating within the Town to become effective on July 1, 2015; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)
- ARTICLE P. To see if the Town will vote to renew its authorization of the Board of Selectmen in compliance to Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 7C, Tax Title Land, of the Town of Rockport Code of By-Laws, to sell or otherwise dispose of said tax title properties on such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate and to execute such documents and take such other action as may be needed to effectuate the purposes of this vote; said properties being identified as follows:

Address of 59 High Street as shown on Assessors Map 18, Lot 26

Address of 8 Marmion Way as shown on Assessors Map 26, Lot 109;
or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)

ARTICLE Q.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for a special act in the form set forth below, authorizing the Board to issue year-round and seasonal wine and malt beverage licenses for licensed food and beverage facilities; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and, provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE GRANTING OF WINE AND
MALT ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES TO BE DRUNK ON
THE PREMISES BY THE TOWN OF ROCKPORT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding sections 11, 11A and 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, or any other general or special law to the contrary, the board of selectmen of the town of Rockport may place upon the official ballot to be used at the next annual or special town election the following question:-

"Shall the board of selectmen be authorized to grant up to 3 year-round licenses and up to 2 seasonal licenses for the sale of wine and malt beverages to be drunk on the premises by patrons of restaurants or other licensed food and beverage facilities approved by the board of selectmen?"

Yes

No

If a majority of votes cast in answer to the question are in the affirmative, the town may grant licenses for the sale of wine and malt beverages to be drunk on the premises of restaurants and other applicable establishments. Nothing in this act shall authorize the issuance of licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises. The board of selectmen may from time to time issue regulations for the granting of the licenses and define terms appropriate to carrying out the objectives of this act. Notwithstanding section 12 of said chapter 138, the board of selectmen, in its discretion, may limit the hours during which such sales may be made. The granting of such licenses shall in all other respects be governed by said chapter 138.

SECTION 2. The restrictions on the on-premises alcoholic beverage licenses approved by the voters of the town of Rockport pursuant to chapter 470 of the acts of 2004 are hereby amended by deleting the restriction that said licenses shall only allow service "to patrons who are seated at tables or on stools for the consumption of meals," and further by authorizing the Rockport board of selectmen to issue such licenses to "restaurants or other

licensed food and beverage facilities approved by the board of selectmen.” All other provisions of chapter 470 of the acts of 2004 shall continue to apply.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

; or act on anything relative thereto. (*By Petition*) (*majority vote*)

ARTICLE R. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the property described below from the board or officer with custody of the property for tax title purposes to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes and for the purpose of conveyance, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant, on behalf of the Town, a permanent non-exclusive access easement on the Town property shown on Assessors Map 32 as Lot 4, which property abuts Penzance Road and Old Penzance Road, for the benefit of the parcel of land shown on Assessors Map 32 as Lot 5A which has an address of 3 Old Penzance Road and as shown on a plan by Boston Survey, Inc. entitled “Certified Plot Plan located at 3 Old Penzance Road, Rockport, MA, dated January 23, 2015 and is on file with the Town Clerk, on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen deem appropriate; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)

ARTICLE S. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant, on behalf of the Town, a permanent non-exclusive access easement on the Town property shown on Assessors Map 19 as Lot 49, known as Blue Gate Lane, to Alice W. Bennett and Linda Berard to allow them access to their property on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen deem appropriate; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*majority vote*)

ARTICLE T. To see if the Town will hear, receive and act upon the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Town Water Supply appointed pursuant to the vote of the 1980 Annual Town Meeting under Warrant Article 6 and extended by votes of successive Annual Town Meetings through and including the 2014 Annual Town Meeting under Warrant Article S, and extend the term of the Committee; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Moderator*)

ARTICLE U. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of its officers, boards, departments, committees and commissions, as printed in the 2014 Annual Town Report or as otherwise submitted to Town Meeting; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Moderator*)

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies of the same at each of the Post Offices, and in other public places in each village of the Town, seven days at least before the day of the holding of said ANNUAL TOWN MEETING.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, three days at least before Saturday, April 4, 2015.

Given under our hands and seal of the Town this 16th day of March 2015, A.D.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF ROCKPORT



Sarah J. Wilkinson, Chair



Wilhelmina Shedy Moores



Paul Murphy

A True Copy
ATTEST:


Erin Battistelli

Mark T. Rowe
Constable of the Town of Rockport


Eliza N. Lucas

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Essex, ss.


Rockport, MA
March 18, 2015

I, Philip D. Wesley, III, *Constable* of the *Town of Rockport*, have on this date *March 18, 2015*, posted the *Annual Town Meeting Warrant* for the *Annual Town Meeting* to be held *Saturday, April 4, 2015*, at the *Rockport High School*, in the two *Post Offices*, the *Town Bulletin Board* and *Seventeen (17)* other *Public Places* throughout the Town including three (3) in *Precinct One*, three (3) in *Precinct Two* and three (3) in *Precinct Three*.



Constable of the Town of Rockport

RECEIVED: 11:55 AM
Town Clerk's Office
Rockport, MA 01966



Patricia E. Brown
Town Clerk

TOWN OF ROCKPORT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2015
ROCKPORT HIGH SCHOOL

The Special Town Meeting dissolved at 9:49AM and the Annual Town Meeting was immediately held. The Chair entertained a motion to omit the reading of the warrant. It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

TOWN CLERK PATRICIA BROWN read the Officer's Return.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article 1.

ARTICLE 1: To choose an agent for the various trust funds of the Town and to choose all other necessary Town Officers in such a manner as the Town may direct; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article 2.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to rescind any one or more of the authorizations previously given to borrow funds for municipal purposes, excluding always, any and all authorizations that have been executed by a borrowing; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Town Treasurer*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote to rescind the authorization previously given to borrow \$324,700 under Article 6 of the April 3, 2010 town meeting.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous years; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Town Accountant*) (*requires 4/5 vote*)

There is no motion under Article 3.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article 4.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to amend or revise certain compensation schedules as set forth by the Rockport Personnel Board and on file in the Town Clerk's Office, which are incorporated herein by reference, namely: A.Compensation Schedules A, B, D and H for salaried employees; and B. Compensation Schedule C for elected officials; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Personnel Board*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

A second motion was entertained for Schedule C.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article 5.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for any or all Town expenses and purposes, including, without limiting the foregoing, debt and interest, out-of-state travel, wages and salaries, operation of the Town's departments and offices, and provide for a reserve fund, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Finance Committee*)

It was moved that the Town appropriate the sum of \$27,005,361 for all items under column 3 of the Table of Estimates under Article 5 in the Town Meeting Voters Booklet, General Fund, all for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, inclusive, and, as funding therefor, raise \$25,504,936 and transfer the following sums from the designated accounts for the purposes specified, namely,

\$ 30,000 from Cemetery Sale of Lots to 402 DPW Cemetery
\$143,400 from Ambulance Reserve to 231 Ambulance
\$ 53,879 from Parking Meter Fund to 212 Traffic and Parking
\$ 32,124 from Parking Meter Fund to 293 Parking Clerk
\$171,268 from Waterways Improvement Fund to 295 Harbormasters
\$ 515 from Waterways Improvement Fund to 297 Harbor Advisory Com.
\$114,656 from CPA Fund to 700 Debt and Interest
\$120,000 from Free Cash to 700 Debt and Interest

\$ 50,000 from Free Cash to 124 Economic Development Expenses
\$ 8,353 from Financial Mgmt System Capital Account to 135 Accounting
\$396,075 from Water Enterprise Fund to Shared Costs
\$380,155 from Sewer Enterprise Fund to Shared Costs

as well as revisions to the following budget accounts found on the noted pages in the Voters Town Meeting Booklet:

1. Page 43: Economic Development Committee Expenses from \$31,559 to \$56,559
2. Page 45: Police Officers, inc OT, Court and Shift Diff from \$818,022 to \$890,072
Police Personnel Expenses – Uniforms, Training, Travel from \$35,255 to \$40,205
3. Page 47: DPW Public Property Wages from \$356,797 to \$349,522
DPW Highway Wages from \$266,826 to \$297,906
DPW Highway Overtime Wages from \$14,629 to \$4,886
DPW Highway Expenses from \$247,523 to \$210,531
4. Page 50: Essex Regional Retirement from \$1,493,687 to \$1,501,171
Group Health Insurance from \$3,952,721 to \$3,970,819
FICA/Medicare from \$236,823 to \$237,113

TOWN MEETING VOTERS BOOKLET

ARTICLE 5: TABLE OF ESTIMATES

Dept #	Department/Description	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
114	MODERATOR			
	Stipend	125	128	128
	Operating Expense	-	114	114
		125	242	242
122	SELECTMEN			
	Five Selectmen Stipends	7,191	7,191	7,195
	Town Administrator	110,571	114,860	118,880
	Assistant Town Administrator	59,770	61,200	61,200
	Office Manager	42,467	43,504	43,504
	Meeting Support Clerk	4,544	6,018	6,018
	Operating Expense	52,189	35,054	35,054
	Audit Services	37,500	36,000	36,000
	Youth Center Operations	41,400	48,000	48,000
	Total	355,632	351,827	355,851
124	SELECTMEN COMMITTEES			
	Economic Development Committee Expenses	15,472	31,559	30,559 56,559
	Historical & Historic District Commission Expenses	-	500	500
	Town Art Committee	601	2,000	2,000
	Millbrook Meadow Committee	274	275	275
	Rights of Way Committee	3,304	3,304	3,304
	Beautification Committee	595	1,000	1,000
	Total	20,246	38,638	38,638 63,638
131	FINANCE COMMITTEE			
	Operating Expense	176	1,100	1,100
	Reserve Fund, less transfers granted	-	303,500	303,500
	Total	176	304,600	304,600
135	TOWN ACCOUNTANT			
	Town Accountant	77,162	70,000	75,000
	Town Accountant Staff	54,565	95,573	51,923
	Operating Expense	28,609	22,495	91,755
	Total	160,336	188,068	218,678
141	ASSESSORS			
	Assessors Stipends	3,231	3,300	3,300
	Assistant Assessor	54,154	55,450	55,450
	Assessor Clerk	34,433	33,960	35,918
	Operating Expense	5,091	4,910	4,910
	Outside services	58,834	4,060	4,060
	Total	155,743	101,680	103,638
147	TREASURER/COLLECTOR			
	Town Treasurer	70,778	72,471	72,471
	Assistant Treasurer/Collector	44,822	46,736	46,736

TOWN MEETING VOTERS BOOKLET

ARTICLE 5: TABLE OF ESTIMATES

Dept #	Department/Description	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
	Other Salaries/Wages	72,255	77,292	77,478
	Operating Expense	34,254	41,349	41,349
	Outside Services	22,443	29,598	29,598
	Tax Title Expenses	5,398	16,060	16,060
	Total	249,950	283,506	283,692
151	LEGAL - Fees & Expenses	182,232	116,433	116,433
152	PERSONNEL BOARD			
	Clerical, Part Time	645	1,224	1,224
	Merit Pay Pool	34,107	35,000	35,000
	Operating Expense	-	380	380
	Total	34,752	36,604	36,604
153	HUMAN RESOURCES			
	Manager Stipend			16,000
	HR Assistant			16,600
	Operating Expense			-
	Total			32,600
154	INFORMATION SYSTEMS & TECHNOLOGY			
	Director Salary	86,667	88,740	88,740
	IS&T Salaries & Wages	121,128	142,871	142,871
	Shared Administrative Support Wages	-	4,862	4,862
	Telephone	1,978	37,043	36,387
	Copiers & other hardware	10,086	40,068	40,068
	Classroom Hardware	56,409	56,661	56,661
	Networking Services	107,551	49,240	47,000
	Software Licenses & On-line services	114,872	125,823	131,498
	Other Operating Expense	18,294	50,350	45,173
	Total	516,985	595,658	593,260
158	TAX POSSESSED LAND	9,226	8,959	8,959
161	TOWN CLERK			
	Town Clerk	59,770	65,000	66,000
	Assistant Clerk	42,467	43,483	43,483
	Operating Expense	9,112	10,714	7,835
	Total	111,349	119,197	117,318
164	ELECTIONS			
	Stipends & Election Officer Wages	6,429	20,660	20,660
	Operating Expense	6,646	8,797	8,797
	Total	13,075	29,457	29,457
171	CONSERVATION COMMISSION			
	Conservation Agent	45,330	46,413	46,413
	Clerical, Part Time	3,478	7,711	7,711
	Operating Expense	1,655	2,103	2,103

TOWN MEETING VOTERS BOOKLET

ARTICLE 5: TABLE OF ESTIMATES

Dept #	Department/Description	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
	Total	50,463	56,227	56,227
175	PLANNING BOARD			
	Clerical, Part Time	17,382	18,920	18,920
	Planning Consultant	21,383	27,000	27,000
	Operating Expense	4,726	2,959	2,959
	Total	43,491	48,879	48,879
176	ZONING BOARD			
	Clerical, Part Time	12,979	13,085	13,085
	Operating Expense	-	705	705
	Legal Notices - Zoning	4,424	4,950	4,950
	Total	17,403	18,740	18,740
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT SUMMARY			
	Salaries, Wages & Stipends	1,066,450	1,175,652	1,176,766
	Operating Expense	854,734	1,123,063	1,187,046
	ATM Authorization	1,921,184	2,298,716	2,363,812
	Pensions & Benefits (Incl in 900)	485,833	570,873	545,601
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2,407,017	2,869,589	2,909,414
	PUBLIC SAFETY			
210	POLICE DEPARTMENT			
	Police Chief	112,108	116,300	115,000
	Police Lieutenant Salary, incl shift diff	93,651	96,041	96,041
	Police Sergeants, incl Shift Diff	233,076	248,637	243,577
	Police Officers, incl OT, Court Time and Shift Diff	839,478	839,939	838,000 890,072
	Civilian Dispatchers	39,613	96,000	100,206
	Other Staff Salaries & Wages	84,768	87,732	90,876
	Personnel Expenses-Uniforms, Training, Travel	42,671	29,453	33,333 40,205
	Vehicle Expense-Fuel, Maintenance	29,566	41,477	32,780
	Facilities Expense	39,528	42,770	41,162
	Equipment Maintenance-Radio, Computer	39,655	38,234	42,301
	Telephone	12,710	9,417	10,000
	Other Operating Expense	9,534	10,100	9,714
	Total	1,576,358	1,656,100	1,624,934 1,711,934
212	TRAFFIC & PARKING			
	Sergeant Stipend	7,797	8,922	8,922
	Parking Meter Attendants	9,721	10,809	10,809
	Personnel Expenses per Contract-Transportation	542	575	575
	Operating Expense	31,067	33,287	33,287
	Total	49,127	53,593	53,593
215	LIFEGUARDS			

TOWN MEETING VOTERS BOOKLET

ARTICLE 5: TABLE OF ESTIMATES

Dept #	Department/Description	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
	Lifeguards (Seasonal)	36,216	46,414	36,414
	Operating Expense	7,902	7,918	7,918
	Total	44,118	54,332	44,332
220	FIRE DEPARTMENT			
	Fire Inspector/Chief	22,388	31,024	31,024
	Firefighter Stipends (AOC)	119,728	97,135	97,135
	PT, Seasonal & Special Labor	225	5,930	5,930
	Personnel Expense-Training	2,316	11,588	11,588
	Vehicle Expense-Fuel, Maintenance, Equipment	22,842	19,685	19,685
	Facilities Expense-Heating, Electrical	37,487	45,648	45,648
	Other Operating Expense	11,579	8,321	8,321
	Total	216,565	219,331	219,331
225	FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT			
	Forest Fire Warden Stipend	3,154	3,217	3,217
	Deputy Stipends	4,350	4,437	4,437
	Firefighter Stipends	15,470	17,371	17,371
	Labor, Part Time	1,210	1,234	1,234
	Operating Expense	5,024	3,244	3,244
	Total	29,208	29,503	29,503
231	AMBULANCE			
	Department Head	4,113	8,387	8,387
	Direct Labor (Stipend)	30,449	75,570	57,386
	PT Labor & EMT per call Wages	23,098	28,585	28,585
	Personnel Expense-Training, Dues	3,380	9,181	9,181
	Vehicle Expense-Maintenance, Fuel	7,352	7,483	7,483
	Outside Services-Billing, Medical	4,246	7,651	7,651
	Other Operating Expense	21,985	24,547	24,727
	Total	94,623	161,404	143,400
241	INSPECTION SERVICES			
	Building Inspector Salary	67,620	69,238	69,238
	Part-time Labor	39,563	43,380	43,798
	Operating Expense	10,586	6,745	6,850
	Total	117,769	119,363	119,886
249	ANIMAL INSPECTOR			
	Animal Inspector Stipend (APT)	1,748	1,783	1,783
	Operating Expense	72	130	130
	Total	1,820	1,913	1,913
291	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT			
	Director's / Deputy's Stipends	4,378	4,465	4,465
	Operating Expense	747	-	750
	Total	5,125	4,465	5,215
292	DOG CONTROL			

TOWN MEETING VOTERS BOOKLET

ARTICLE 5: TABLE OF ESTIMATES

Dept #	Department/Description	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
	Dog Officer Salary (APT)	7,091	9,000	9,000
	Assistant Animal Control Officer	2,918	3,840	3,840
	Operating Expense	3,132	4,441	3,980
	Total	13,141	17,281	16,820
293	PARKING CLERK			
	Hearing Officer Stipend	1,262	1,288	1,288
	Parking Clerk	16,593	17,424	17,424
	Operating Expense	10,263	13,144	13,144
	Admin&Collection Services	-	-	-
	Total	28,118	31,856	31,856
295	HARBORMASTERS/SHELLFISH			
	Harbormasters	42,590	44,095	44,095
	Assistant Harbormasters	3,775	3,907	3,907
	Asst Shellfish Officer & Warden	2,747	3,602	3,602
	Seasonal, Part-Time	262	12,211	12,211
	Equipment Maintenance-Radios	3,832	7,515	7,515
	Boat Maintenance	8,433	10,256	10,256
	Float, Ramp Repair/Replacement	8,424	8,640	9,640
	Office & Other Operating Expense	23,783	36,637	35,637
	Total	93,846	126,863	126,863
297	HARBOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE	135	515	515
	PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMARY			
	Salaries, Wages & Stipends	1,871,160	2,037,917	1,989,223
	Operating Expense	398,793	438,602	438,937
	ATM Authorization	2,269,953	2,476,519	2,428,160
	Pensions & Benefits (Incl in 900)	531,220	558,683	638,610
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	2,801,173	3,035,202	3,066,771
400	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS			
	ADMINISTRATION			
	Stipends, Salaries & Wages	193,145	244,692	234,650
	Office Expenses	44,246	31,373	48,055
	Total	237,391	276,065	282,705
	PUBLIC PROPERTY (incl parks & seasonal)			
	Wages, Regular & OT	311,380	336,713	356,797 349,522
	Operating Expense	202,967	195,067	208,824
	Total	514,347	531,780	565,621 558,346
	HIGHWAY, GENERAL			
	Wages, Regular	238,252	259,918	266,886 297,906
	Wages, OT	27,391	14,342	14,639 4,886
	Highway Expense	236,996	228,761	247,923 210,531

TOWN MEETING VOTERS BOOKLET

ARTICLE 5: TABLE OF ESTIMATES

Dept #	Department/Description	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
	Garage Expense	84,267	73,479	73,479
	Total	586,906	576,500	602,657
	HIGHWAY, SNOW & ICE			586,802
	Wages, Regular	37,191	37,934	39,573
	Wages, OT	80,346	40,058	40,058
	Operating Expense	166,504	40,388	40,388
	Total	284,041	118,380	120,019
	TRANSFER STATION			
	Wages, Regular & OT	101,297	112,773	117,404
	Operating Expense, mostly haulage	257,009	286,664	327,133
	Total	358,306	399,437	444,537
	CEMETERY			
	Wages, Regular & OT	108,639	115,574	118,757
	Operating Expense	6,324	9,415	8,724
	Total	114,963	124,989	127,481
	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SUMMARY			
	Salaries, Wages & Stipends	1,097,641	1,162,004	1,188,695
	Operating Expense	998,313	865,147	954,126
	ATM Authorization	2,095,954	2,027,151	2,142,821
	Pensions & Benefits (Incl in 900)	425,587	451,458	507,707
	TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	2,521,541	2,478,609	2,650,528
500	HEALTH AND WELFARE			
510	BOARD OF HEALTH			
	Board Members Stipends	-	546	546
	Sanitary Inspector	33,728	34,535	34,535
	PT Admin Asst	7,704	15,836	15,836
	Seasonal Labor - Beach Testing	1,356	1,298	1,298
	PT Public Health Nurse	5,178	5,591	5,591
	Operating Expense	17,534	22,050	20,050
	Total	65,500	79,856	77,856
541	COUNCIL ON AGING			
	Director	41,635	41,998	42,631
	Clerical Part Time	2,398	2,448	2,448
	Operating Expense	14,026	13,878	13,907
	Total	58,059	58,324	58,986
543	VETERANS SERVICES			
	Veterans Agent Stipend	3,165	3,228	-
	Operating Expense	340	520	15,020
	Veterans Allowances	53,553	60,000	60,000
	Total	57,058	63,748	75,020

TOWN MEETING VOTERS BOOKLET

ARTICLE 5: TABLE OF ESTIMATES

Dept #	Department/Description	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
	HEALTH AND WELFARE SUMMARY			
	Salaries, Wages & Stipends	95,164	105,480	102,885
	Operating Expense	85,453	96,448	108,977
	ATM Authorization	180,617	201,928	211,862
	Pensions & Benefits (Incl in 900)	50,544	52,454	46,083
	TOTAL HEALTH AND WELFARE	231,161	254,382	257,945
600	CULTURE AND RECREATION			
610	LIBRARY			
	Department Head	65,296	53,987	67,000
	Other Direct Labor	258,831	265,343	265,343
	Operating Expense	4,014	32,304	32,765
	Library Materials (19%)	96,764	98,055	98,055
	Contractual	44,806	46,096	46,096
	Total	469,711	495,785	509,259
630	RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE			
	Recreation Director (incl seasonal labor)	27,170	27,540	27,540
	Clerical Part-time	10,569	13,219	13,219
	Operating Expense	4,347	11,535	10,060
	Total	42,086	52,294	50,819
635	GRANITE PIER			
	Seasonal Labor	10,586	12,755	12,755
	Operating Expense	6,233	8,989	8,989
	Total	16,819	21,744	21,744
638	THACHER & STRAIGHTSMOUTH ISLAND			
	Direct Labor	5,808	9,200	9,200
	Other Operating Expense	8,891	10,550	10,134
	Total	14,699	19,750	19,334
692	MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE	2,956	2,608	2,608
	CULTURE and RECREATION SUMMARY			
	Labor	378,260	382,044	395,057
	Operating Expense	168,011	210,137	208,707
	ATM Authorization	546,271	592,181	603,764
	Pensions & Benefits (Incl in 900)	142,770	148,743	130,469
	TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATIONAL	689,041	740,924	734,233
700	DEBT AND INTEREST			
	Maturing Debt Principal	894,000	955,388	1,176,160
	Maturing Debt Interest	263,043	274,523	263,174

TOWN MEETING VOTERS BOOKLET

ARTICLE 5: TABLE OF ESTIMATES

Dept #	Department/Description	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
	Temporary Debt Principal	-	126,924	120,000
	Temporary Debt Interest	24,067	4,749	16,615
	TOTAL DEBT AND INTEREST	1,181,110	1,361,584	1,575,949
900	OTHER			
911	ESSEX REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM	1,198,469	1,376,414	1,408,369 1,501,171
913	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	51,376	50,500	53,161
914	GROUP INSURANCE			
	Health	3,590,826	3,812,910	3,952,721 3,970,819
	Life	10,402	12,803	12,900
		3,601,228	3,825,713	3,965,621 3,983,719
916	FICA/MEDICARE	193,301	196,179	206,600 237,113
917	SICK LEAVE / BUY-BACK	58,266	67,474	70,000
940	INSURANCE EXPENSE	391,289	457,810	474,850
	TOTAL OTHER	5,493,929	5,974,091	6,384,146 6,320,014
ARTICLE 5 TOWN DEPARTMENT SUMMARY				
	Salaries, Wages & Stipends	4,508,675	4,863,098	4,852,627
	Pension & Benefits (Incl in 900)	2,445,123	2,734,558	2,860,771
	Operating Expenses	2,896,593	3,191,208	3,372,643
	Debt Service (Incl in 700)	1,007,911	1,177,636	1,347,916
	TOTAL ARTICLE 5 BEFORE SCHOOLS	10,858,301	11,966,500	12,433,957
PUBLIC EDUCATION - TOWN CONTRIBUTION				
300	Base Funding from Town - ATM APPROPRIATION	10,485,038	10,727,560	10,964,411
	Pensions & Benefits (Incl in 900)	2,657,517	2,781,722	2,958,522
	Debt Service (Incl in 700)	173,199	183,948	228,032
305	Essex Tech. High School-ATM APPROPRIATION	173,678	374,512	315,497
	TOTAL PUBLIC EDUCATION	13,489,432	14,067,742	14,466,462
	GRAND TOTAL ARTICLE 5	24,347,734	26,034,242	26,900,419 27,005,361

Moved and seconded

WALLY HESS: Good morning. Before we go through the detail of the budget numbers, I would like to give you a quick overview of how difficult this budget has been for the Finance Committee. Because of the snow storms we received the budget request a week late, and then had additional snow delays after that. To make matters worse, the requests for spending were high enough so that we needed to cut those requests by more than \$350,000, and that was not fun. None of the school or Town departments received what they wanted. We had 18 public meetings since the beginning of January to sort this out, many lasted three hours or more. Why was this year so difficult? Let's do a little review here: First, our ability to increase RE taxes is constrained by Proposition 2 ½, as everybody knows. This means that without an override, these can normally increase no more than about \$675,000 per year. Non-real estate tax revenue increases about \$200,000 a year, making a total of \$875,000 available for all increases. Remember that \$875,000 number. Against this, the major categories of expenses are: employee and retiree health and retirement benefits which increased nearly \$350,000. Without some restructuring, this

will continue to increase at least as rapidly in the future. Debt service to fund previously approved capital projects will increase \$215,000 in fiscal year '16. That's not speculation, that debt has already been issued and the semi-annual payments have been scheduled. Despite these approved projects, our infrastructure continues to erode somewhat. Remember infrastructure items include roads, seawalls, town and school buildings and underground plumbing. We didn't address those to any significant extent in this year's budget. We increased our direct appropriation to the school department by \$240,000.

You can see that these three items have taken up most of our increased revenue if you're been keeping score: \$350,000; \$215,000; and \$240,000. We couldn't afford anything else, employee raises, increased operating costs, new initiatives, anything else. So in addition to the \$300,000 of expense cuts or \$350,000 of expense cuts that we had to make this spring, this winter – mostly during the snow – we decided to assume that we would raise real estate taxes closer to the limit and recommend a small increase in the meals tax in order to bridge the gap. It's very hard to hold the two ends of this thing together. The new meals tax will allow us to raise real estate taxes slightly less than the maximum allowed. You can see this whole thing has been a difficult balancing act. We had to deal with all the departments who were funded less than they needed and we had to try to deal with all kinds of different types of revenues to make all this balance. By the way, we took a quick look at what fiscal year '17 is going to look like it's going to be much tighter than fiscal '16 just keep that in the back of your mind. As I said, we had to do a lot of scrambling for time. We had to get the budget to the printer in order to have it available for today's meeting. Subsequent to delivering it, we made three changes to our recommendation. These are issues that just came up within the last week. We increased the amount to be appropriated to the Economic Development Committee from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

We worked with the DPW so they could hire an additional highway employee. The DPW was able to reduce other expense throughout their department so that that employee did not increase the budget since we had no space for that, no dollar space. The day before yesterday the police union settled their contract with the Town. Since the old contract expired on June 30, 2013, there are two components to this settlement. There will be a retroactive increase since June 30, 2013, and there will be a new higher level of expense in the FY16 budget. The budget numbers that we were working with until yesterday had assumed that it would cost about \$50,000 for the retroactive portion and it turned out to be \$73,000. We had assumed that an additional \$50,000 for the new higher level of annual expense and it turned out to be \$77,000 higher.

Now, you'll notice that there are a lot of changes in the numbers in the booklet and Linda read most of those and all those changes will be projected upon the screen today. However there are a lot of changes but they all relate to those three items. Additional amount to the Economic Development Committee, switching things around in the DPW so that they had room to hire a new highway employee which they desperately need, by the way and to deal with the changes in the police union settlement. So you'll see dozens of changes but they all boil down to those three topics. One other thing we had to deal with was the extraordinary expense for snow and ice removal this year. I think you're all familiar with that. Against our budget of \$120,000, for snow and ice removal we spent \$470,000. A \$350,000 increase, that's a lot more but we had so there wasn't any choice. These expenses were in FY2015, so they're not in the fiscal '16 budget that we're going to discuss in a moment and this morning, a few minutes ago, the Special Town Meeting we voted to transfer, in that list of transfers you saw up on the screen a total of \$255,000 from unused accounts and we still are \$95,000 short. We expect between now and the end of June that we'll find that \$95,000 but we haven't found it yet.

One other last minute change was that this morning we voted to recommend special town meeting to transfer money to repair, from the air conditioning account at town hall to repair the bathrooms in the library. Those bathrooms have been out of service for nearly a year. It was very important that we did that and we thank everybody for voting for that transfer. Okay, enough of my complaining.

Hopefully most of you have had an opportunity to read through the Report of the Finance Committee beginning on Page 11 in your booklet today. This report has also been available this past week in town hall, and in the library and on the town web site. This report gives you more information on much of what I just said and we think it helps put today's decisions in context. I'll just finish by mentioning sort of the aggregates we're going to be voting on this morning. The total proposed spending for operations, Article 5 is about \$27 million, we're going to be looking at all the components of that in a few minutes, then in addition to that we have total spending for the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds which is \$3.6 million this is not funded by taxes but is funded by your water/sewer bills, and then we have total capital items which is Article 6 are \$1.1 million we're going to be voting on those also. It's now time to go through the detail of the budget numbers. Remember all the changes from the booklets result from those three changes I mentioned earlier – the additional amount to the Economic Development Committee, DPW changes to allow them to hire the highway person and the new police contract.

The Town Moderator read through Article 5 for items to be held.

Now, we are going to have a motion on the items that were not held.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by voice vote to approve all non-held items.

The first held item: 124 Selectmen committees.

TOBY ARSENIAN: I moved that we subtract the sum of \$50,000 from the appropriation for the Economic Development Committee expenses and adjust the total accordingly.

It was moved, seconded and failed by hand vote.

The next held item: 131 Finance Committee.

TOBY ARSENIAN: I move a vote of thanks for the Finance Committee, the Capital Improvement Planning Committee, the Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen for all of their long, hard work in preparing the budget.

All those in favor of that motion please clap your hands. (applause)

TOWN CLERK PAT BROWN: I'm holding the Finance Committee reserve fund in an effort to take money from that fund and apply it to elections so when elections come up my intent is to take funds from the reserve fund from the Finance Committee to fund tabulators for elections.

MODERATOR: Why don't we jump ahead to elections?

PAT BROWN: I move to amend line item 164 Elections by adding \$21,000 to operating expense for the purchase of tabulators as a one-time non-recurring expense and fund this from line item 131 Finance Committee Reserve Fund.

Moved and seconded. (Discussion ensued)

The motion was withdrawn to hold the Finance Committee's Reserve Fund and hold Article 6 instead.

The consent of the meeting allowed the motion to be withdrawn and to be heard again in Article 6.

There was no motion made under Item 154.

There was no motion made under Item 914.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by hand vote to approve the entire budget in Article 5 in the amount of \$27,005,361.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article 5A.

ARTICLE 5A. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for any and all Town expenses and purposes including, without limiting the foregoing, debt and interest, out-of-state travel, wages and salaries, operation of the Town's Water Enterprise and provide for a reserve fund, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Finance Committee*)

	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
Water Enterprise			
Administration	87,263	91,247	91,309
Direct Labor	443,279	477,346	497,820
Overtime	14,315	17,664	17,664
Fuel, Light & Power	131,823	173,609	183,409
Operating Expense	189,122	190,722	190,722
Clothing Expense	3,333	3,468	3,775
Reserve Fund	2,059	50,000	50,000
Debt Service	163,333	231,529	235,421
Shared Employees Wages, P & B	115,631	152,525	91,313
Direct Pensions & Benefits	7,628	250,335	261,725
Bldg/Liability Insurance	33,200	33,200	43,037
Transfer to Sewer			

Article 5A Summary

Labor	544,856	586,257	603,833
Energy	131,823	173,609	183,409
Operating Expense	194,514	244,190	244,497
Debt Service	163,333	231,529	235,421
Reimbursement for Services			
Authorized in the General Fund	156,459	436,060	394,604
TOTAL ARTICLE 5A	1,190,985	1,671,645	1,666,195

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article 5B.

ARTICLE 5B: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for any and all Town expenses and purposes including, without limiting the foregoing, debt and interest, out-of-state travel, wages and salaries, operation of the Town's Sewer Enterprise and provide for a reserve fund, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)*

	FY14 Actuals	FY15 FTM	FY16 Budget
Sewer Enterprise			
Administration	89,080	94,349	94,415
Direct Labor	422,023	455,659	471,156
Overtime	15,568	16,495	16,825
Fuel, Light & Power	214,787	234,684	253,411
Operating Expense	263,598	248,231	246,185
Reserve Fund	0	50,000	50,000
Retained Earnings Deficit Reduction	0	37,083	0
Debt Service	460,278	298,617	315,110
Shared Employees	111,575	111,576	92,560
Pensions & Benefits	7,365	229,153	250,917
Bldg/Liability Insurance	4,225	27,700	36,679
Transfer to Sewer			
Article 5B Summary			
Labor	526,671	566,503	579,436
Energy	214,787	234,684	253,411
Operating Expense	263,598	335,314	296,185
Debt Service	460,278	298,617	315,110
Reimbursement for Services			
Authorized in the General Fund	123,165	368,429	378,684
TOTAL ARTICLE 5B	1,588,498	1,803,547	1,827,257

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article 6.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for Capital Outlay Items, such sums of money as set forth in the schedule prepared by the Finance Committee, or any other sum or sums, a copy of which schedule is on file in the Town Clerk's Office, and which is incorporated herein by reference, and determine whether such sums will be raised by fees, taxation, transferred from available funds, provided by borrowing, or by any combination of the foregoing; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee) (requires 2/3 vote)*

Dept. #	Department	FY2016 Requests	FY16 Requested	Free Cash	Borrowing	School Roof Refund	Waterways	Pkg Meter
164	Elections	voting tabulators		\$21,000				
210	Police	Video Monitoring Cameras	\$ 18,473	\$ 18,473				
210	Police	1 Cruiser; 1 Chief's Auto	\$ 66,726					\$ 66,726
220	Fire	Class A Fire Pumper	\$ 660,000		160,000	\$ 500,000		
330	Schools	Bathroom Upgrades	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000				
330	Schools	Carpeting	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000				
330	Schools	Replace Hallway and athletic lockers	\$ 34,755	\$ 34,755				
400	DPW	Highway Drainage Pipe & Accessories	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000				
400	DPW-Building	Community House Ext Painting	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000				
400	DPW-Building	Town Hall Annex Generator	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000				
400	DPW	Solar Powered Radar Speed Signs	\$ 12,500					12,500
400	DPW	Roadway Improvements	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000				
610	Library	Heating System	\$ 24,337	\$ 24,337				
639	Straitsmouth Isl	Keepers House Renovations	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000				
295	Harbormasters	Pilings Replacement	\$ 7,900				\$ 7,900	
295	Harbormasters	Old Rockport Harbor Dredging	\$ -					
		TOTAL FY16 REQUESTS	\$ 1,044,691	\$ 318,565	\$ 160,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 7,900	\$ 79,226

Dept. #	Department	FY2015 STM Requests	FY16 Requested	Free Cash			Waterways	Pkg Meter
210	Police	New Parking Meters	\$ 60,000					\$ 60,000
		Total FY15 STM REQUESTS	\$ 60,000					\$ 60,000

TOBY ARSENIAN: I object to the appropriation for the Straitsmouth Island Keepers House Renovations at a cost of \$10,000. I move we delete that line item.

It was moved, seconded and failed by voice vote.

A motion was made by Heath Ritchie to reduce Article 6 by \$21,000 for the voting tabulators.

It was moved and failed by hand vote.

Senator Bruce Tarr was acknowledged and thanked for all his hard work helping our community.

Article 6 (part 1) was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote.

Article 6, Part 2: LINDA SANDERS FOR BILL WAGNER: I move that the Town appropriate \$160,000 for the item printed on page 56 in the Town Meeting Voters Booklet as column 3, "Borrowing" and to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow the sum of \$160,000 pursuant to G.L. Ch. 44, §§8 or 9 or any other enabling authority and issue bonds and notes therefor; and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out these purchases.

It was moved, seconded and carried by a hand vote of more than two-thirds.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article 6A.

ARTICLE 6A. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for Capital Outlay Items for the Water Enterprise, sums of money as set forth in the schedule prepared by the Finance Committee, or any other sum or sums, a copy of which schedule is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and which is incorporated herein by reference, and determine whether such sums will be raised by fees, taxation, transferred from available funds, provided by borrowing, or by any combination of the foregoing; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)*

LINDA SANDERS FOR LAURENE WESSEL, Capital Improvement Planning Committee Member, and also Finance Committee member moves that the Town appropriate \$10,000 for Water Meter Replacements and \$50,000 for Great Hill Water Pressure Improvements for the following items in the column marked "Free Cash" under Article 6A – Water Enterprise Fund, on page 57 in the Town Meeting Voters Booklet, and to meet this appropriation \$60,000 shall be transferred from Water Surplus and that the Board of Selectmen and the DPW Commissioners are authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out these projects and purchases.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article 6B.

ARTICLE 6B. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for Capital Outlay Items for the Sewer Enterprise, sums of money as set forth in the schedule prepared by the Finance Committee, or any other sum or sums, a copy of which schedule is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and which is incorporated herein by reference, and determine whether such sums will be raised by fees, taxation, transferred from available funds, provided by borrowing, or by any combination of the foregoing; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Finance Committee*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR LAURENE WESSEL: I move that the town appropriate \$70,000 for the items under Article 6B as printed on page 58 of the Town Meeting Voters Booklet in the column marked "free cash" and to meet this appropriation, \$70,000 shall be transferred from Sewer Surplus and that the Board of Selectmen and the DPW Commissioners are authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this project.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article T.

ARTICLE T(7): To see if the Town will hear, receive and act upon the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Town Water Supply appointed pursuant to the vote of the 1980 Annual Town Meeting under Warrant Article 6 and extended by votes of successive Annual Town Meetings through and including the 2014 Annual Town Meeting under Warrant Article S, and extend the term of the Committee; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Moderator*)

DOROTHY CARVALHO, CHAIRMAN: The Ad Hoc Committee on Town Water Supply was appointed at the 1980 annual town meeting by the Moderator, and has been reappointed each year since then. Its charge was to assist the Director in the investigation and make recommendations relating to the town's water supply. At the time of the committee's creation the structure of the Department of Public Works was much different. There were no commissioners nor an assistant to help him with the many concerns about expansion, maintenance, and improvement of the town water supply. The Town Engineer did work closely with him. The current DPW's enlarged personnel department is now able to address all engineering and technical issues, and is a source to whom citizens can bring concerns or ideas. Recently a thorough Water Needs Assessment for the town was completed, and now implementation of its recommendations can move forward.

From its inception in 1980 the committee has consisted of up to nine volunteers, many of whom have been engineers. Edward Alan Boulter, better known as Al Boulter, acted as our chairman until his death a few years ago. He grew up in Rockport and had worked on town water issues since the 1950s. His vast civil engineering knowledge and suggestions about water supplies and distribution provided an invaluable source of ideas to the town's DPW and to us, the members of the Ad Hoc Committee. Another member who provided new ideas for both storage and distribution was Ed Cob, a former employer of Metcalf and Eddy, and an expert in town water supplies. It was his recommendation that brought the Pool's Hill water storage tank on line. A third member I'd like to acknowledge is Nick Barletta, who first worked with us as a selectman and since then as a member representing the select board, bringing great knowledge of the town's water system as well as procedural information about passing of articles to be put before the electorate. We also had Fred Grover who provided assistance in financial procedures drawing upon his years of service on the Finance Committee. For several years we had Alan Hovey whose interest in the history of Rockport's water supply resulted in a book documenting much of the water supply's history. The Director of the DPW Don Atkinson, the Town Engineer George Robertson, as well as Roy Lee the Chief Plant Operator at the Water Treatment Plant all worked closely with this committee to ensure a reliable high quality water supply for the town. In addition to engineers some of us have been residents, representative of the general public, and we too worked closely with the Director of the DPW making suggestions for improvements, and reviewing studies which were bid out to various engineering firms. This collaborative group's work and recommendations have resulted in an updated and sophisticated water system, with most distribution pipes replaced and improved, some of which can flow in two directions to allow for the redistribution of various water sources then in current use by our town's water supply system. We have pursued and have received state approval for future water sources and storage, such as those for the Flat Ledge Quarry Dam, as well as our deep wells which are new to our system and are currently being prepared to be put on line. Water quality is greatly improved, and as a committee we take pride in our accomplishments, in our part in the development of the Rockport water system.

Since we are no longer charged with responsibility for assisting the director, we believe that we should disband. We remain committed to going through and organizing the many records we have. Their filing is important for two reasons: To provide the town with any records it may not have at the DPW office and to provide the town with an historical sequential history of its water system, its land acquisitions to protect its supply, and permits acquired from the state to protect future sites for storage of water. These files also include ideas that have not yet been acted upon or explored to date such as the idea of desalinization of the town's water supply or the building of the dam at the Keystone Bridge to ensure the storage of water which currently runs off into the

ocean. Documents about these things need to be preserved. Therefore, as we disband it is with a sense of sadness we end many years of working together to protect and improve our water system. We encourage continued volunteerism and participation in the solving of any water source issues that the town is sure to face in its future. In reality, it is through the efforts of at least 24 volunteering citizens over the last 35 years that we have left the town's water supply system in better shape than we found it 35 years ago and we feel great pride in what we have accomplished.

Respectfully submitted: Dorothy Carvalho, Chairman; Laura Fillmore, Clerk; Steve Scatterday, Nick Barletta and Mike Roskowski (applause)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote to accept the report with gratitude.

And now if you want to talk for a moment or two before we vote on whether to extend the term of that report we can do so.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote to extend the Ad Hoc Committee on Town Water Supply for another year.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article U.

ARTICLE U (8): To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of its officers, boards, departments, committees and commissions, as printed in the 2014 Annual Town Report or as otherwise submitted to Town Meeting; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Moderator*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR CHAIRPERSON WILKINSON: I move that the Town accepts the reports of its officer, boards, departments, committees and commissions, as printed in the 2014 Annual Town Report or as otherwise submitted to town meeting.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article M.

ARTICLE M (9): To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ the Community House revolving fund as voted in Article H of the September 8, 2014 Town Meeting to which receipts received in connection with use of the Community House shall be deposited and may be expended by the Director of Public Works for Community House building maintenance purposes, said sum not to exceed a certain amount in FY2016; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article N.

ARTICLE N (10): To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ the School Transportation revolving fund as voted in Article E of the September 8, 1997 Town Meeting to which receipts received in connection with use of non-mandated School Transportation services shall be deposited and may be expended by the School Superintendent for non-mandated school transportation purposes, said sum not to exceed a certain amount in FY2016; or act on anything relative thereto. (*School Committee*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article Q.

ARTICLE Q (11): To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for a special act in the form set forth below, authorizing the Board to issue year-round and seasonal wine and malt beverage licenses for licensed food and beverage facilities; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and, provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE GRANTING OF WINE AND MALT ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES TO BE DRUNK ON THE PREMISES BY THE TOWN OF ROCKPORT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding sections 11, 11A and 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, or any other general or special law to the contrary, the board of selectmen of the town of Rockport may place upon the official ballot to be used at the next annual or special town election the following question:

“Shall the board of selectmen be authorized to grant up to 3 year-round licenses and up to 2 seasonal licenses for the sale of wine and malt beverages to be drunk on the premises by patrons of restaurants or other licensed food and beverage facilities approved by the board of selectmen?”

Yes
No

If a majority of votes cast in answer to the question are in the affirmative, the town may grant licenses for the sale of wine and malt beverages to be drunk on the premises of restaurants and other applicable establishments. Nothing in this act shall authorize the issuance of licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises. The board of selectmen may from time to time issue regulations for the granting of the licenses and define terms appropriate to carrying out the objectives of this act. Notwithstanding section 12 of said chapter 138, the board of selectmen, in its discretion, may limit the hours during which such sales may be made. The granting of such licenses shall in all other respects be governed by said chapter 138.

SECTION 2. The restrictions on the on-premises alcoholic beverage licenses approved by the voters of the town of Rockport pursuant to chapter 470 of the acts of 2004 are hereby amended by deleting the restriction that said licenses shall only allow service “to patrons who are seated at tables or on stools for the consumption of meals,” and further by authorizing the Rockport board of selectmen to issue such licenses to “restaurants or other licensed food and beverage facilities approved by the board of selectmen.” All other provisions of chapter 470 of the acts of 2004 shall continue to apply.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.; or act on anything relative thereto. *(By Petition) (majority vote)*

After lengthy debate it was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote to move the question.

Article Q was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote.

The Town Clerk entertained a motion under Article H.

ARTICLE H (12): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$75,000 to pay for state mandated real and personal property revaluations; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen)*

It was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote.

ARTICLE I. (13): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from Free Cash a sum of money to the General Stabilization fund to pay for future expenditures; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen) (requires 2/3 vote)*

There is no motion under Article I.

ARTICLE K (14): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from Free Cash a sum money to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund created under Article N of the April 3, 2010 Annual Town Meeting to cover future benefit obligations to retired employees; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen)*

There was no motion under Article K.

The Town Clerk entertained a motion under Article B.

ARTICLE B (15): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$4,000 or any other sum, for Action, Inc.; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen)*

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Town Clerk entertained a motion under Article C.

ARTICLE C (16): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,000 or any other sum, for Healing Abuse Working for Change (HAWC); or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen)*

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Town Clerk entertained a motion under Article D.

ARTICLE D (17): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,100 or any other sum, for SeniorCare, Inc.; or act on

anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Town Clerk entertained a motion under Article E.

ARTICLE E (18): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,000 or any other sum, for The Open Door; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

Because the Moderator has a conflict the Town Clerk will be moderating R and S.

A motion under Article R was entertained.

ARTICLE R (19): To see if the Town will vote to transfer the property described below from the board or officer with custody of the property for tax title purposes to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes and for the purpose of conveyance, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant, on behalf of the Town, a permanent non-exclusive access easement on the Town property shown on Assessors Map 32 as Lot 4, which property abuts Penzance Road and Old Penzance Road, for the benefit of the parcel of land shown on Assessors Map 32 as Lot 5A which has an address of 3 Old Penzance Road and as shown on a plan by Boston Survey, Inc. entitled "Certified Plot Plan located at 3 Old Penzance Road, Rockport, MA, dated January 23, 2015 and is on file with the Town Clerk, on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen deem appropriate; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote of more than two-thirds.

A motion under Article S was entertained.

ARTICLE S (20): To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant, on behalf of the Town, a permanent non-exclusive access easement on the Town property shown on Assessors Map 19 as Lot 49, known as Blue Gate Lane, to Alice W. Bennett and Linda Berard to allow them access to their property on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen deem appropriate; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*majority vote*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote of more than two-thirds.

ARTICLE J (21): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from Free Cash a sum of money to the Capital Reserve Stabilization fund to pay for future capital expenditures; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)

There was no motion under Article J.

ARTICLE G (22): To see if the Town will vote to close the Financial Management Capital account and appropriate by transfer the remaining unexpended funds to the Financial Management System Contract account for the purpose of paying the first annual license fee for the financial management system software; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)

There was no motion under Article G.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article P.

ARTICLE P (23): To see if the Town will vote to renew its authorization of the Board of Selectmen in compliance to Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 7C, Tax Title Land, of the Town of Rockport Code of By-Laws, to sell or otherwise dispose of said tax title properties on such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate and to execute such documents and take such other action as may be needed to effectuate the purposes of this vote; said properties being identified as follows:

Address of 59 High Street as shown on Assessors Map 18, Lot 26
Address of 8 Marmion Way as shown on Assessors Map 26, Lot 109;
or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)

An amendment was made and ruled out of order.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article A.

ARTICLE A (24): To see if the Town will vote to expend the a sum of money allocated to the Town under the provisions of Section 34(2)(a) of M.G.L. Ch.90 or otherwise, so-called "Chapter 90 monies"; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article F.

ARTICLE F (25): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the fiscal years 2014, 2015, and 2016 cost items contained in the collective bargaining agreements between the Town of Rockport and the Rockport MassCOP, Local 154 (Patrol Officers Unit); with the agreement covering the term of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*) (*majority vote*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article O.

ARTICLE O (26): To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of General Laws Chapter 64L, Section 2(a) authorizing the Town to impose a local sales tax at the statutory rate of .75% on the sale of restaurant meals originating within the Town to become effective on July 1, 2015; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Board of Selectmen*)

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article L.

ARTICLE L (27): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to the SPED Stabilization fund to pay for future Special Education obligations; or act on anything relative thereto. (School Committee) (requires 2/3 vote)

It was moved, seconded and carried by a hand vote of more than two-thirds.

The Chair entertained a motion to dissolve this meeting. It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The annual town meeting dissolved at 2:55PM.

**TOWN OF ROCKPORT
WARRANT FOR
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015**

ESSEX, SS. To **MARK SCHMINK** or any **CONSTABLE** of the **TOWN OF ROCKPORT, MASSACHUSETTS.**

GREETINGS: In the name of the **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS** you are hereby required to **NOTIFY** and **WARN** the **INHABITANTS** of said **TOWN** who are qualified to **VOTE** in **ELECTIONS** to meet in their respective **POLLING PLACES** on **TUESDAY**, the **FIFTH DAY OF MAY, 2015, 7:00 O'CLOCK A.M. to 8:00 O'CLOCK P.M.** for the following purposes:

POLLING PLACES: **PRECINCT ONE**, Pigeon Cove Circle, Breakwater Avenue, North Village.
PRECINCT TWO, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 24 Broadway, South Village.
PRECINCT THREE, Elementary School, 24 Jerden's Lane, South Village.

To bring in their **Votes** to the **Election officers** by **Ballot** for the **ELECTION** of the following **OFFICERS**:

Two Selectmen for three years, One Assessor of Taxes for three years, One Planning Board member for three years, One Library Trustee for three years Two School Committee members for three years & One Rockport Housing Authority member for five years.

QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1 ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF DISCONTINUING THE FLUORIDE SUPPLEMENTATION OF THE ROCKPORT WATER SUPPLY?

☐ YES

☐ NO

SUMMARY:

This question was authorized to appear on the ballot by Chapter 400 of the Acts of 2014, as requested by the Special Town Meeting September 9, 2014. Currently, the Town's water is fluoridated to the level recommended by state and federal agencies. In Massachusetts approximately 140 out of 351 municipalities fluoridate their water supply. Approval of this question would constitute direction to the Town's Board of Selectmen and Commissioners of Public Works to take appropriate action to discontinue fluoride supplementation of water in the Town. If approved, the fluoridation of the water supply shall not be ordered again by the board of health for a period of at least two years from the date of this vote.

QUESTION 2 SHALL THE TOWN OF ROCKPORT VOTE TO ACCEPT THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION SIX C OF CHAPTER FORTY OF THE GENERAL LAWS, WHICH AUTHORIZE CITIES AND TOWNS TO APPROPRIATE MONEY FOR THE REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE FROM PRIVATE WAYS THEREIN OPEN TO PUBLIC USE?

☐ YES

☐ NO

All the above **Officers** and **Questions** will be voted upon **One Ballot**.

The **POLLS** will open at **7:00 O'CLOCK A.M.** and close at **8:00 O'CLOCK P.M.**

And you are directed to serve this **WARRANT** by posting attested copies of the same at each of the **POST OFFICES**, the **TOWN BULLETIN BOARD** and in other **PUBLIC PLACES** in each **VILLAGE** of the **TOWN, SEVEN DAYS** at least before the **DAY** of the holding of said **ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION**.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this **WARRANT** with your doings thereon, **THREE DAYS** at least before **TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015**.

Given under our **HANDS** and the **SEAL** of the **TOWN OF ROCKPORT** this **FOURTEENTH DAY** of **APRIL, 2015, A.D.**



**TOWN OF ROCKPORT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Sarah J. Wilkinson
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
Erin Batters

A true copy, ATTEST:

[Signature]
Constable of the Town of Rockport

Essex, ss.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Rockport, Ma.
April 15, 2015

I, **James R. Hurst**, *Constable* of the *Town of Rockport*, have on this date, *April 15, 2015* posted a copy of the *Warrant* for the *Local Election* to be held on *Tuesday*, the *Fifth Day* of *May, 2015*, in the two *Post Offices*, the *Town Bulletin Board*, and in *Seventeen (17)* other *Public Places* throughout the *Town* including three [3] in *Precinct One*, three [3] in *Precinct Two*, and three [3] in *Precinct Three*.



Constable of the Town of Rockport

RECEIVED: 1:47 PM
Town Clerk's Office
Rockport, MA 01966



Patricia E. Brown, CMMC
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF ROCKPORT
LOCAL ELECTION
MAY 5, 2015**

	<i>PREC. 1</i>	<i>PREC. 2</i>	<i>PREC. 3</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
BOARD OF SELECTMEN				
VOTE 2				
WILHELMINA MOORES	<u>336</u>	<u>441</u>	<u>540</u>	<u>1317</u>
SARAH WILKINSON	<u>373</u>	<u>483</u>	<u>622</u>	<u>1478</u>
WRITE-INS	<u>15</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>45</u>
				<u>0</u>
BLANKS	<u>352</u>	<u>369</u>	<u>417</u>	<u>1138</u>
TOTAL	<u>1076</u>	<u>1312</u>	<u>1590</u>	<u>3978</u>
ASSESSOR OF TAXES				
VOTE 1				
TIMOTHY W. GOOD, IV	<u>374</u>	<u>491</u>	<u>593</u>	<u>1458</u>
WRITE-INS	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
				<u>0</u>
BLANKS	<u>163</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>527</u>
TOTAL	<u>538</u>	<u>656</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>1989</u>
PLANNING BOARD				
VOTE 1				
CAMERON L. SMITH	<u>354</u>	<u>466</u>	<u>585</u>	<u>1405</u>
WRITE-INS	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>
				<u>0</u>
BLANKS	<u>181</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>209</u>	<u>578</u>
TOTAL	<u>538</u>	<u>656</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>1989</u>
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC LIBRARY				
VOTE 1				
LANA RAZDAN	<u>401</u>	<u>526</u>	<u>648</u>	<u>1575</u>
WRITE-INS	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>
				<u>0</u>
BLANKS	<u>136</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>404</u>
TOTAL	<u>538</u>	<u>656</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>1989</u>
SCHOOL COMMITTEE				
VOTE 2				
HEATHER JEAN NELSON	<u>247</u>	<u>376</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>1023</u>
REBECCA MEAD SLY	<u>264</u>	<u>316</u>	<u>408</u>	<u>988</u>
HENRY R. STRZEMILOWSKI, JR.	<u>193</u>	<u>227</u>	<u>306</u>	<u>726</u>
WRITE-INS	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
				<u>0</u>
BLANKS	<u>370</u>	<u>392</u>	<u>472</u>	<u>1234</u>
TOTAL	<u>1076</u>	<u>1312</u>	<u>1590</u>	<u>3978</u>

	<i>PREC. 1</i>	<i>PREC. 2</i>	<i>PREC. 3</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
ROCKPORT HOUSING AUTHORITY				
VOTE 1				
BETHANY A BROSNAN	<u>380</u>	<u>505</u>	<u>590</u>	<u>1475</u>
WRITE-INS	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
				<u>0</u>
BLANKS	<u>156</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>510</u>
TOTAL	<u>538</u>	<u>656</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>1989</u>
QUESTION 1				
REMOVE FLUORIDE				
YES	<u>199</u>	<u>303</u>	<u>298</u>	<u>800</u>
NO	<u>339</u>	<u>351</u>	<u>496</u>	<u>1186</u>
BLANKS		<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	<u>538</u>	<u>656</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>1989</u>
QUESTION 2				
PLOW PRIVATE ROADS				
YES	<u>409</u>	<u>515</u>	<u>630</u>	<u>1554</u>
NO	<u>99</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>351</u>
BLANKS	<u>30</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>84</u>
TOTAL	<u>538</u>	<u>656</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>1989</u>

	Reg. Voters	# Voted		TIME	
PRECINCT ONE	<u>1352</u>	<u>538</u>	<u>39.79%</u>	IN:	<u>9:08pm</u>
PRECINCT TWO	<u>1866</u>	<u>656</u>	<u>35.16%</u>	TIME	
				IN:	<u>8:52pm</u>
PRECINCT THREE	<u>2212</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>35.94%</u>	TIME	
				IN:	<u>9:00pm</u>
TOTAL	<u>5430</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>36.63%</u>		<u></u>

TOWN OF ROCKPORT
WARRANT FOR
FALL TOWN MEETING
Monday, September 14, 2015
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Essex, ss.

To: One of the Constables of the Town of Rockport,
Massachusetts in said County of Essex in the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

GREETINGS: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet and assemble at the Rockport High School at 24 Jerden's Lane in said Rockport on Monday, the fourteenth day of September, 2015 A.D., at 7:00 o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

ARTICLE A. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer, a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous fiscal years; or act on anything relative thereto. *(9/10 vote)*

ARTICLE B. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer, a sum or sums of money to add to the appropriations made under Articles 5, 5A, 5B, 6, 6A and/or 6B of the April 4, 2015 Annual Town Meeting or to reduce appropriations made thereunder; or act on anything relative thereto. *(majority vote)*

ARTICLE C. To see if the Town will hear and receive the annual report and recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 44B of the General Laws and Chapter 2, Section 5(d)(ii) of the Code of By-laws; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Community Preservation Committee) (majority vote)*

ARTICLE D. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Section 6 of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, to set aside in the Community Preservation Fund sums of money from Community Preservation Fund FY2016 estimated annual revenues for later spending for the respective purposes indicated:

First, a sum of money to be deposited in the Community Housing Reserve Account;

Second, a sum of money to be deposited in the Open Space/Recreation Reserve Account;

Third, a sum of money to be deposited in the Historic Preservation Reserve Account;

or act on anything relative thereto. (*Community Preservation Committee*) (*majority votes*)

ARTICLE E.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund the following amounts for the respective purposes indicated:

First, \$25,000 to be expended under the oversight of the Department of Public Works and the Granite Pier Committee, working with the Community Preservation Committee, for preparation of professional engineering or architectural plans incident to a study of the feasibility to build a staircase for access between the upper and lower levels of Granite Pier and;

Second, \$30,000 to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works working with the Community Preservation Committee, for the replacement, restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of exterior painting of the Community House;

Third, \$50,000 to be expended under the direction of the Thacher and Straitsmouth Islands Committee working with the Community Preservation Committee, for the replacement, restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of the Straitsmouth Island Keepers House;

Fourth, \$75,000 as a grant to Action Inc., a nonprofit corporation duly organized under the laws of Massachusetts, for its Rental/Mortgage Assistance Program for the creation of community housing for Rockport residents, under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen;

Fifth, \$132,046 as a grant to the Rockport Congregational Church, under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen working with the Community Preservation Committee, for the historic restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of the Congregational Church building steeple;

Sixth, \$38,525 to be expended under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools working with the Community Preservation Committee, for restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of the Elementary School Outdoor Basketball Courts;

Seventh, \$26,950 for administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016,

including but not limited to appraisals, land surveys, copying, postage, legal notices and other costs;

or act on anything relative thereto. *(Community Preservation Committee) (majority votes)*

ARTICLE F. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer the sum of \$95,000 from the Watershed Protection account back to the Community Preservation Committee's Open Space Reserve account to return the unused balance to the CPC that was originally appropriated under Article D, *Third* of the September 8, 2008 Fall Town Meeting; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Community Preservation Committee) (majority vote)*

ARTICLE G. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from the Parking Meter Fund to the Meter Maintenance account, the sum of \$10,655 to pay for the annual hosting and credit card processing fees; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Traffic and Parking) (majority vote)*

ARTICLE H. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the unexpended funds initially borrowed to finance capital School Treads, Landings, and Ramps project that is now complete, and for which no further liability remains, the unexpended balance of \$33,657 from Article 6 of the April 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, to a School Carpeting Replacement Capital account to pay costs of replacing carpeting in the schools; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Educational Services Department) (majority vote)*

ARTICLE I. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to make emergency repairs to the Harbormaster and Public Restroom facility at 3 T-Wharf; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works) (majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed)*

ARTICLE J. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to make necessary repairs to the Library Building to stop leaks; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works) (majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed)*

ARTICLE K. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to purchase a

Sidewalk Tractor and Attachments for snow removal; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works) (majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed)*

ARTICLE L. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to purchase a DPW Sanding and Plow Truck for snow removal; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works) (majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed)*

ARTICLE M. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to pay for the cost of improvements to the Highway Garage ventilation system; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works) (majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed)*

ARTICLE N. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer a sum of money from the Infiltration & Inflow Reserve Fees to the Sewer Lining & Repairs capital account for additional funding for the Sewer Lining & Repairs Project. *(Department of Public Works) (majority vote)*

ARTICLE O. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to make necessary repairs to the Back Beach Revetment; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works) (majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed)*

ARTICLE P. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant, on behalf of the Town, on such terms and conditions and for such duration as the Selectmen deem appropriate, permanent access and electric easements and temporary construction easements in, on, and under portions of the Town-owned parcels of land shown on Assessors Map 11 as Parcels 21B and 22 and described in deeds recorded with the Essex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 4955, Page 42 and Book 2997, Page 268, which portions are shown more particularly on a plan entitled "Rockport Layover Facility Power Upgrade Contract No. J62CN01" prepared by Nitsch Engineering, dated June 30, 2015, and a

plan entitled “Rockport Layover Facility Power Upgrade Contract No. W9CNXX” prepared by Nitsch Engineering, dated June 19, 2015, which plans are on file with the Town Clerk, said easements to be granted to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority for the aforesaid purposes, including, without limitation, the construction and maintenance of a power distribution duct bank, conduits and appurtenances, and reconstruction of a parking lot; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works) (majority vote)*

ARTICLE Q.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws by adding the following new section under the existing Section IV, Area and Dimensions Regulations, to be designated as Section IV. A. 11:

“11. RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS

- a. Objective: To control the effect of increasing scale and density of residential dwellings in Rockport’s neighborhoods.
- b. Applicability: SR-AA (Single Residential AA), SR (Single Residential), RA (Residential A), and R (Residential) Zoning Districts.
- c. Floor Area and Side Setbacks:
 - 1) On a lot of 2 acres or less, the total gross floor area of all residential dwellings and accessory buildings on the lot shall not exceed 7,000 sq. ft. total gross floor area (GFA).
 - 2) The total GFA of residential dwellings (including accessory buildings) on a lot of two acres or less shall not exceed 175% of the mean GFA of the residential dwellings and accessory buildings on the abutting properties. “Abutting properties” shall mean, for the purposes of this section, only those properties whose owners would be entitled to notice as “parties in interest” under M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 11 and are within 50 feet of the subject property boundary.
 - 3) Residential single, two family and multiples dwellings, accessory buildings, and townhouses shall have the following side setbacks:
 - i. 20 ft. – for buildings with 4000 – 5999 sq. ft. GFA
 - ii. 25 ft. – for buildings with greater than 6000 sq. ft. GFA

Notes:

- a) For purposes of Section IV.A.11, basement space shall be excluded from the computation of GFA.

- b) Garages and out-buildings (non-living space) added by special permit if total or gross area of all structures exceeds 7000 sq. ft. "Non-living space" shall be defined as space in garages and out-buildings used or intended for storage of vehicles, lawnmowers, boats, motors, snowmobiles, and accessory equipment. Space in attics having a height of 7 feet or greater is defined as "living space" whether or not it is currently being used as living space and is considered a part of GFA.
- c) Parcels with adequate area for a secondary dwelling as defined under Section III.B.1., E will be exempt from the 175% limitation on GFA when applying for the construction of a secondary dwelling." *(Planning Board)*
(2/3 vote)

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies of the same at each of the Post Offices, the Town Bulletin Board and in other public places in each village of the Town, fourteen days at least before the day of the holding of said FALL TOWN MEETING.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk, three days at least before Monday, September 14, 2015.

Given under our hands and seal of the Town this 11th day of August 2015, A.D.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF ROCKPORT



Erin M. Battistelli, Chairperson



Paul F. Murphy, Vice Chair



Eliza N. Lucas, Member

A TRUE COPY, ATTEST:


Constable for the Town of Rockport

Wilhelmina Sheedy Moores, Member



Sarah J. Wilkinson, Member

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Essex, ss.

Rockport, MA
August 12, 2015

I, James R. Hurst, *Constable* of the *Town of Rockport*, have on this date *August 12, 2015*, posted the *Special Fall Town Meeting Warrant* for the *Special Fall Town Meeting* to be held *Monday, September 14, 2015*, at the *Rockport High School*, in the two *Post Offices*, the *Town Bulletin Board* and *Seventeen (17)* other *Public Places* throughout the Town including three (3) in *Precinct One*, three (3) in *Precinct Two* and three (3) in *Precinct Three*.



Constable of the Town of Rockport

RECEIVED: *August 12, 2015 3:27 PM*

Town Clerk's Office
Rockport, MA 01966

Linda A. Emerson
Linda A. Emerson
Asst. Town Clerk



TOWN OF ROCKPORT
FALL TOWN MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2015
ROCKPORT HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MODERATOR: Good evening ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, it is time to proceed with the 2015 Fall Town Meeting. (The time 7:12PM) We will open with the flag salute – please rise. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The invocation was given by the Reverend Derek Van Gulden from the First Congregational Church.

The Chair entertained a motion to omit the reading of the Articles in the Warrant. It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

Town Clerk Patricia Brown read the Officer's Return.

The Moderator determined the following Articles were related A and B; C,D,E and F.

The first two Articles drawn K and L had no motions:

ARTICLE K. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to purchase a Sidewalk Tractor and Attachments for snow removal; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed*)

There was no motion under Article K.

ARTICLE L. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to purchase a DPW Sanding and Plow Truck for snow removal; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed*)

There was no motion under Article L.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article O.

ARTICLE O. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to make necessary repairs to the Back Beach Revetment; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR PAUL SENA, CHAIRMAN OF THE DPW COMMISSINERS: I move that the Town appropriate the sum of \$150,000 to a Back Beach Revetment Repairs Account to make necessary repairs to the Back Beach Revetment, that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow \$150,000 under G.L. Chapter 44, section 7(33) or any other enabling authority and issue bonds and notes therefor; and that the Board of Selectmen and the DPW Commissioners are authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this project.

It was moved, seconded and carried by a hand vote of more than two-thirds.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article I.

ARTICLE I. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to make emergency repairs to the Harbormaster and Public Restroom facility at 3 T-Wharf; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*majority vote, 2/3, if borrowed*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR PAUL SENA, CHAIRMAN OF DPW COMMISSIONERS: I move that the Town appropriate by transfer the sums of \$35,948 from the Essex Regional Retirement Assessment account and \$6,052 from the Group Health Insurance account to a Harbormaster/Public Restrooms Facility Repairs Capital Account to pay for emergency repairs to the Harbormaster/Public Restrooms Facility.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article Q.

ARTICLE Q. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws by adding the following new section under the existing Section IV, Area and Dimensions Regulations, to be designated as Section IV. A. 11:

“11. RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS

- a. Objective: To control the effect of increasing scale and density of residential dwellings in Rockport's neighborhoods.
- b. Applicability: SR-AA (Single Residential AA), SR (Single Residential), RA (Residential A), and R (Residential) Zoning Districts.
- c. Floor Area and Side Setbacks:
 - 1) On a lot of 2 acres or less, the total gross floor area of all residential dwellings and accessory buildings on the lot shall not exceed 7,000 sq. ft. total gross floor area (GFA).
 - 2) The total GFA of residential dwellings (including accessory buildings) on a lot of two acres or less shall not exceed 175% of the mean GFA of the residential dwellings and accessory buildings on the abutting properties. “Abutting properties” shall mean, for the purposes of this section, only those properties whose owners would be entitled to notice as “parties in interest” under M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 11 and are within 50 feet of the subject property boundary.
 - 3) Residential single, two family and multiples dwellings, accessory buildings, and townhouses shall have the following side setbacks:
 - i. 20 ft. – for buildings with 4000 – 5999 sq. ft. GFA
 - ii. 25 ft. – for buildings with greater than 6000 sq. ft. GFA

Notes:

- a) For purposes of Section IV.A.11, basement space shall be excluded from the computation of GFA.
- b) Garages and out-buildings (non-living space) added by special permit if total or gross area of all structures exceeds 7000 sq. ft. “Non-living space” shall be defined as space in garages and out-buildings used or intended for storage of vehicles, lawnmowers, boats, motors, snowmobiles, and accessory equipment. Space in attics having a height of 7 feet or greater is defined as “living space” whether or not it is currently being used as living space and is considered a part of GFA.
- c) Parcels with adequate area for a secondary dwelling as defined under Section III.B.1., E will be exempt from the 175% limitation on GFA when applying for the construction of a secondary dwelling.” (*Planning Board*) (*2/3 vote*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR HERMAN LILJA, CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING BOARD: I move that the Town amend the Zoning By-Laws Section IV entitled “Area and Dimensions Regulations” by inserting a new Section IV.A.11. as printed in the Warrant and as presented on pages 36 and 37 of the *Fall Town Meeting Voters Booklet*.

It was moved and seconded.

Mr. Lilja read the following slides:

Introduction

- Proposal – amend Zoning By-Laws relating new and renovated residences over 4000
- Goal – to limit the scale and density of residential dwellings to retain the charm of Rockport’s neighborhoods.
- Need – currently zoning by-laws do not prevent the siting of very large houses in areas where smaller houses predominate

Zones Affected by Changes

- Changes apply to all sections of Rockport except downtown and the general zone
- Zones affected are:
 - SR-AA (Single Residential AA)
 - SR (Single Residential)
 - RA (Residential A)
 - R (Residential)

Motivation to Change By-Laws

- Construction of new and renovated houses which overwhelm the location in which they are built
- Increasing loss of separation between homes along all streets creating a wall effect
- Location of new and renovated houses at the limits of side setbacks to maximize size
- General loss of charm of many neighborhoods

General Approach

- Three components:
 - Limit the size of a new or renovated residences on lots of 2 acres or less.
 - Limit the size of new or renovated residences in relation to the abutting residences within 50 ft.
 - Increase the space between residences in relation to the size of the new or renovated residences.

Basis for Approach

- Based on gross floor area (GFA) in sq. ft. of a residence
- GFA is determined by measuring to the limits of the foundation of a structure on a parcel
- GFA is currently used by the Assessors' Office in Rockport for determining area of a home
- Garages, decks, attics and accessory buildings are included in GFA; basements are excluded

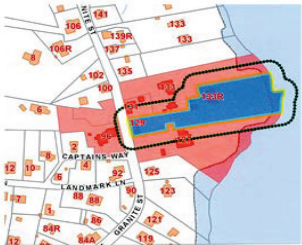
Specific Approach

- On a lot of 2 acres or less:
 - Total GFA of all residential dwellings and accessory buildings shall not exceed 7,000 sq. ft.
 - Total GFA of residential dwellings and accessory buildings shall not exceed 175% of the mean GFA of residential dwellings and accessory buildings on abutting properties within 50 ft.

Specific Approach (Cont.)

- Side setbacks for residential dwellings:
 - 20 ft. - residences with GFA of 4000 – 5999 sq. ft. (currently 15 ft)
 - 25 ft. - residences with GFA greater than 6000 GFA (currently 15 ft)

Determining Abutters Within 50 ft



Calculating Size of Addition Using 175% Limit and 7000 GFA Limit

		Home GFA	Basement GFA	Home GFA - Basement GFA
Residence at: 705 Phillips Ave.		8430	1750	6680
Abutters within 50 ft	3			
703 Phillips Ave		4408	750	3658
704 Phillips Ave		3034	1000	2034
707 Phillips Ave		9771	2530	7241
			Mean GFA	4311
New Residence as % of Abutters			155	%
Size of possible addition based on 175% limit				864 sq ft
Size of possible addition based on 7000 GFA limit				320 sq ft

Comparison of GFA Using 175% Limit

	1	2	Homes 3	4	5	6	7
Lot Size (Ac.)	0.68	1.75	1.47	1.22	1.49	1.43	0.94
GFA of New Structure	10484	10820	7728	8189	9771	11520	9975
GFA of Abutters Within 50 ft	7597	6268	3835	2515	5719	2989	4262
New Structure as % of Abutters (50)	138	173	201	326	171	385	234
Structure	Single Family	Single Family	Duplex	Duplex	Single Family	Single Family	Single Family
Status	Built	Under Construction	Built	Approved	Existing	Existing	Existing
Year	2014	2014-16	2014	2015	?	?	?

Comparison of GFA Using 175% Limit With and Without Basement

	Homes						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
GFA of Home							
With Basement	10484	10820	9150	8189	9771	11520	9975
Without Basement	8514	10820	7554		9771	7406	7329
GFA of Abutters							
With Basement	7597	6268	4417	2515	5719	2989	4262
Without Basement	5632	5331	3180		3923	2406	3157
Home as % of Abutters							
With Basement	138	172	207	326	171	385	234
Without Basement	151	203	238		249	308	232

GFA (-basement) as % of Abutter GFA Doctors Run Residences

Address	GFA	GFA w/o Basement	GFA as % of Abutters*
1 Doctor's Run	6804	5078	158
3	6600	4328	88
4	4160	2900	88
6	5058	3756	97
7	7190	5698	74
8	5257	3596	88
10	5595	4388	110
12	4936	3998	97
14	5556	3658	88
16	4085	4085	89

Construction in Rockport for 2010 - 2014

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
New	8	12	9	13	6
Cost*	\$3,159,000.00	\$4,043,821.00	\$3,659,000.00	\$5,092,000.00	\$1,386,000.00
Renovated	212	226	239	226	227
Cost*	\$8,952,338.00	\$5,904,471.00	\$5,809,850.00	\$7,893,162.00	\$7,944,833.00

* Information from Building Inspector Monthly and Annual Reports (2010-2014)

Building Permits Issued for Homes Larger than 7000 GFA (2010-2014)

Location	2010	Size of Homes (GFA/sq ft)			
		2011	2012	2013	2014
121 Granite St.	10642				
103 Granite St.	8379				
162 Thatcher Rd.		13334			
73 Phillips Ave.			7517		
5 Penryn Way				9975	
129 Granite St.				10484	
9 W. Tarr's Lane					9150

Estimated Impact of By-Laws on Tax Revenue from New Homes for 2015

Location	GFA (sq ft)	GFA Above 7000 sq ft	Assessed Value	Property Tax	Tax for Area Over 7000 GFA	Percent of Town Tax	Affected by By-Law Change?
121 Granite St	8692	1692	\$2,372,600	\$26,099	\$5,080	0.03	Yes
103 Granite St	6311	0	\$1,604,300	\$17,647	\$0	0.00	No
162 Thatcher Rd	13334	6334	?	Lot larger than 2 acres			No
73 Phillips Ave	5093	0	\$1,791,400	\$19,705	\$0	0.00	No
5 Penryn Way	9975	2975	\$1,253,800	\$13,792	\$4,113	0.02	Yes
129 Granite	10484	3484	?	Under construction			Yes
				Total	\$9,194	0.05	
Rate/\$1000	\$11.00	\$19,841,034.00					
Total Tax for 2015							

Building Permits for Renovations Making Homes >7000 GFA (2010-2014)

Location/Cost	2010	Size of Homes (GFA - Basement; sq ft.)			
		2011	2012	2013	2014
15 Beach St \$425,000	4342				
147 Granite St \$525,000	3756				
77 Penzance Rd \$612,000		5463			
45 Marmion Way \$185,000		4556			
45 Marmion Way \$475,000		4556			
83R Phillips \$525,000				3926	
291 Granite \$800,000				5500	
73 Marmion Way \$525,000					4885
20 Phillips Ave \$300,000					6916

Estimated Impact of By-Laws on Tax from Renovated Homes for 2015

Location	GFA (sq ft)	GFA Above 7000 sq ft	Assessed Value	Property Tax	Tax for Area Over 7000 GFA	Percent of Town Tax	Affected by By-Law Change?
15 Beach St.	6088	0	\$1,329,500	\$14,625	\$0	0.00	No
77 Penzance Rd.	6876	0	\$1,917,500	\$21,093	\$0	0.00	No
10 Gap Head Rd.	5752	0	\$2,414,000	\$26,554	\$0	0.00	No
291 Granite St.	8461	1461	\$1,004,900	\$11,054	\$1,909	0.01	Yes
2 Old Penzance Rd.	9286	2286	\$1,765,700	\$19,423	\$4,781	0.02	Yes
5 Penryn Way	9975	2975	\$1,253,800	\$13,792	\$4,113	0.02	Yes
				Total	\$10,803	0.05	
Rate/\$1000	\$11.00	\$19,841,034.00					
Total Tax for 2015							

Gain vs Loss to Rockport Resulting from By-Law Change

- Yes, a loss to the tax base would result from the proposed by-law changes; however,
- There are both aesthetic and economic gains associated with protecting the charm of Rockport
- Both the gains and the loss are subject to NPV projections.*
- The gains from protecting aesthetics and enhancing the charm of Rockport can be viewed to be as large if not larger than the loss.

* Based on input from Prof. Patrick Conway, Chairman, Economics Department, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC

Notes on Assessor's Data

- Rockport has 2822 residential parcels
- 2787 homes are less than 7,000 GFA (98.7%)
- 35 homes with 7,000 or greater GFA (1.2%)
- 5 homes with greater than 10,000 GFA (0.1%)

Property Analysis Based on Proposed By-Law Changes

- GFA of all houses less than 175% of abutters within 50 ft and less than 7000 GFA when basements excluded.
 - Doctors Run/Quarry Run
 - Gap Head Rd.
- Only 6 single family homes and 1 duplex built in last 5 years were larger than 7000 GFA (Building Inspector reports)

Property Analysis Based on Proposed By-Law Changes (cont.)

- Of the houses that exceed 7000 GFA:
 - One house is on 20 acres; hence, not affected
 - Two other houses are not affected:
 - Both less than 175% of abutters when basements excluded
 - Both less than 7000 GFA when basements are excluded
 - Two houses on Granite St. and one house on Penryn Rd. and a duplex on West Tarr's Lane are greater than 175% of abutters and are greater than 7000 GFA
- The proposed changes impact very few existing houses in Rockport

By-Law Review by Attorney General

- Office of the Assistant Attorney General reviewed the proposed by-law to regulate the size of residential structures
- Conclusion - the by-law would likely be approved because the by-law is not, on its face, inconsistent with the state Zoning Act's prohibition (c. 40A, § 3) of regulating or restricting "the interior area of a single family residential building".

Summary

- Limit the size of new or renovated residences on lots of 2 acres or less.
- Limit the size of new or renovated residences in relation to the abutting residences.
- Increase the space between new or renovated residences and neighboring residences
- Proposed by-law changes have a cost but benefit (retained charm/aesthetics) is equal or greater.
- Goal – retain charm of Rockport’s neighborhoods

The Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and the Board of Appeals do not support Article Q.

LANA RAZDAN: Chair of the Economic Development Committee. Herman did not tell you that he also got a letter from my committee. He was generous enough with his time to come in and brief us on Article Q because we had a lot of questions about it. At the end of the meeting it was a unanimous decision and I think it mirrors what you’ve heard from the other committees in the room tonight that we appreciate all of the work, I think it’s well intentioned, I agree that we have to look at how we maintain our charm because it is a selling point but at the same time the Economic Development Committee has to look at the issue in context.

After lengthy discussions for and against, Selectman Paul Murphy asked that the questions be moved.

MODERATOR: Respectfully moving the question requires a two-thirds vote.

TOBY ARSENIAN: Point of Order – I would like to see the question divided into three parts. I believe if ten people ask to have it divided that can be done.

It was moved, seconded and carried by a hand vote of two-thirds to move the question.

It was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote to divide the questions into three parts (or separate votes).

MODERATOR: We’re going to vote on the three components and of course the text of the surrounding article and motion.

Alright, you have heard the motion and this is going to require a two-thirds and now we’re looking at the first component here which says “On a lot of 2 acres or less, the total gross floor area of all residential dwellings and accessory buildings on the lot shall not exceed 7,000 sq. ft. total gross floor area (GFA).”

A standing vote was taken and the motion passed by two-thirds.

MODERATOR: We’re going to vote on “The total GFA of residential dwellings (including accessory buildings) on a lot of two acres or less shall not exceed 175% of the mean GFA of the residential dwellings and accessory buildings on the abutting properties. Abutting properties, shall mean for the

purposes of this section, only those properties whose owners would be entitled to notice as parties in interest under MGL Chapter 40A, Section 11 and are within 50' of the subject property boundary."

A standing vote was taken and the motion failed.

And now the third question: "Residential single, two family and multiples dwellings, accessory buildings, and town houses shall have the following side setbacks: 20' for buildings with 4,000 to 5,999 sq. ft. GFA; 25' for buildings with greater than 6,000 sq. ft. GFA"

A standing vote was taken and the motion passed.

The Moderator summarized: the first prong, number 1 passed. The second prong failed. And the third prong passed.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article N.

ARTICLE N(7): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to pay for the cost of improvements to the Highway Garage ventilation system; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority, provided that the amount authorized to be borrowed hereunder shall be contingent on a debt exclusion vote to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one half, so-called, the amounts required to pay the principal and interest on the bonds to be issued to finance this project; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (2/3 vote, if borrowed)

LINDA SANDERS FOR PAUL SENA: I move that the Town transfer the sum of \$75,000 from the Inflow and Infiltration Reserve account to an Inflow and Infiltration Capital Account to fund a storm water inflow and infiltration project.

It was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article C.

ARTICLE C (8): To see if the Town will hear and receive the annual report and recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 44B of the General Laws and Chapter 2, Section 5(d)(ii) of the Code of By-laws; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Community Preservation Committee*) (majority vote)

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE, CHAIR OF THE CPC: I move that the Town hear and receive the report of the Community Preservation Committee.

RUTH GEORGE: Good evening. The Community Preservation Act allows for any city or town in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to adopt a property surcharge with revenues from this surcharge and state matching funds, to be devoted to Open Space/and Recreational use, Historic Preservation and Community Housing.

Since 2003 the Town of Rockport voted in the Community Preservation Act at 3%, the maximum and reaffirmed it again in 2008. A surcharge of 3% on local property tax and state matching funds collected from a \$20.00 fee on real estate transactions. The level of matching funds we received depends on the percentage of communities in Massachusetts that have adopted the CPA Act in their cities and towns. We

have been very fortunate that the citizens of Rockport adopted it when it first began and at its full 3% max.

CPA funds collected can only be invested in certain Community Preservation projects. All of our project requests since the act was passed came to us, and then to you, from individuals, groups and town committees. We have needed and continue to need your input. We write to all town committees and commissions annually and also solicit applications through the newspaper explaining the law and how these funds may be used. We hold an advertised public hearing to go over the application process with interested parties. Our public hearing will be at our November 10th meeting for next year's project applications. Those with a request file an application with the town by the first Monday in February. Each group will be contacted to come make a presentation to the committee and answers additional questions of the committee. We often ask them to return after making changes or clarifying issues to see if they meet the specifics of the different categories. We also work with the CPA coalition in Boston as needed for specific aspects of a project. We interview all applicants during our open to the public monthly meeting held the second Tuesday of the month at the Rockport Police Station Community Room. We determine eligible projects and vote on final recommendations either full requests or partial amounts depending on available monies etc. for the fall town meeting and the voters.

Ten percent of the funds received in any fiscal year must be allocated for each of the three areas. The remaining 70% of each year's funds can be spent in any of the areas as determined by Rockport. CPC funds cannot be used for general maintenance. In addition five percent of the annual CPC revenues can be spent on administrative and operation expenses of the CPC. Consistent with the terms of CPA and with the adoption of the bylaw in 2003 a CPC Committee was formed to study and recommend how Rockport's CPA revenues should be spent. The committee is appointed by the Town Moderator and mandates that certain town committees serve as representatives to the committee. The committee currently includes: Maryanne Lash, representing the Conservation Committee; Stephen DeMarco, representing the Historic Commission, Edward Hand, representing the Planning Board, Bruce Reed, representing the DPW Board of Commissioners, Bethany Brosnan, representing the Rockport Housing Authority and four at-large members: Philip Crotty, Julie McMahon, Mel Michaels, our current Treasurer, and myself, Ruth George, Chairperson.

In 2014 and 2015 the Governor included in the fiscal year's budget, the transfer of \$25 million from the budget surplus to the statewide CPA trust fund. This year 2016 the CPA trust fund will be receiving \$10 million from the budget surplus. With our match of 3% this continues to be great news for the Town of Rockport. Our estimated FY2016 tax revenue is \$450,000. Estimated FY2015 state match \$85,000 and estimated FY2016 interest is \$4,000. Since its beginning in 2003, the town has appropriated over \$6 million in projects in Rockport funded through your local Community Preservation Committee. Tonight, we bring you six new projects that we feel deserve your support for the Town of Rockport.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth C. George, Chair – Rockport Community Preservation Committee

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote to accept the report with gratitude.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article D.

ARTICLE D (9): To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Section 6 of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, to set aside in the Community Preservation Fund sums of money from Community Preservation Fund FY2016 estimated annual revenues for later spending for the respective purposes indicated:

First, a sum of money to be deposited in the Community Housing Reserve Account;

Second, a sum of money to be deposited in the Open Space/Recreation Reserve Account;

Third, a sum of money to be deposited in the Historic Preservation Reserve Account;

or act on anything relative thereto. (*Community Preservation Committee*)
(*majority votes*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: I move that \$53,900 be transferred from FY15 Estimated Annual Revenues of the Community Preservation Fund to the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve Account.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Second motion:

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: I move that \$53,900 be transferred from FY15 Estimated Annual Revenues of the Community Preservation Fund to the Community Preservation Fund Open Space/Recreation Reserve Account.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

Third motion:

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: I move that \$53,900 be transferred from FY15 Estimated Annual Revenues of the Community Preservation Fund to the Community Preservation Fund Historic Preservation Reserve Account.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article E.

ARTICLE E (10): To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund the following amounts for the respective purposes indicated:

First, \$25,000 to be expended under the oversight of the Department of Public Works and the Granite Pier Committee, working with the Community Preservation Committee, for preparation of professional engineering or architectural plans incident to a study of the feasibility to build a staircase for access between the upper and lower levels of Granite Pier and;

Second, \$30,000 to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works working with the Community Preservation Committee, for the replacement, restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of exterior painting of the Community House;

Third, \$50,000 to be expended under the direction of the Thacher and Straitsmouth Islands Committee working with the Community Preservation Committee, for the replacement, restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of the Straitsmouth Island Keepers House;

Fourth, \$75,000 as a grant to Action Inc., a nonprofit corporation duly organized under the laws of Massachusetts, for its Rental/Mortgage Assistance Program for the creation of community housing for Rockport residents, under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen;

Fifth, \$132,046 as a grant to the Rockport Congregational Church, under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen working with the Community Preservation Committee, for the historic restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of the Congregational Church building steeple;

Sixth, \$38,525 to be expended under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools working with the Community Preservation Committee, for restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of Elementary School Outdoor Basketball Courts;

Seventh, \$26,950 for administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, including but not limited to appraisals, land surveys, copying, postage, legal notices and other costs;
or act on anything relative thereto. (*Community Preservation Committee*) (*majority votes*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: I move that \$25,000 be appropriated and transferred from the Community Preservation Open Space and Recreation Reserve account and expended under the oversight of the Director of Public Works and DPW Commissioners in conjunction with Granite Pier Committee, working with the Community Preservation Committee, for the restoration, rehabilitation, and preservation of Granite Pier for the Granite Pier Staircase Study, which may include the preparation of professional engineering or architectural plans incident to a study of the feasibility to build a staircase for access between the upper and lower levels.

It was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote.

Second motion:

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: Mr. Moderator, I move that \$30,000 be appropriated and transferred from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve account and expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works and the DPW Commissioners, working with the Community Preservation Committee for the restoration, rehabilitation, and preservation of the Community House for exterior painting services.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

Third motion:

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: Mr. Moderator, I move that \$50,000 be appropriated and transferred from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve account to a Straitsmouth Island Keepers House account, to be expended by the Thacher and Straitsmouth Islands Committee, working with the Community Preservation Committee for the restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of the Straitsmouth Island Keepers House.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

Fourth motion:

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: I move that \$75,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance account as a grant to Action Inc. for its Rental/Mortgage Assistance Program for the creation of community housing for Rockport residents, under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Fifth motion:

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: I move that \$132,046 be appropriated and transferred from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance account as a grant to the Rockport Congregational Church, under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen in conjunction with the Historical Commission, working with the Community Preservation Committee, for the historic restoration, rehabilitation, and preservation of the Congregational Church steeple, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire any appropriate preservation restriction relative thereto.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

Sixth motion:

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: I move that \$38,525 be appropriated and transferred from the Community Preservation Open Space and Recreation Reserve account and expended under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools, working with the Community Preservation Committee, for the restoration, rehabilitation, and/or preservation of the Elementary School Outdoor Basketball Courts.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Seventh motion:

LINDA SANDERS FOR RUTH GEORGE: I move that \$22,950 be appropriated and transferred from the FY16 Estimated Annual Revenues of the Community Preservation Fund to be expended for administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, including but not limited to appraisals, land surveys, copying, postage, legal notices, meeting support, and other costs from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article M.

ARTICLE M (11):To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to pay for the cost of improvements to the Highway Garage ventilation system; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7, or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*majority vote, 2/3 if borrowed.*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR PAUL SENA: I move that the Town appropriate and transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Library Floor Sewerage Repairs account to a DPW Facility Ventilation Improvements Capital Account to pay for DPW garage ventilation, restroom and garage door improvements, or other items found in need of repair.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article G.

ARTICLE G (12): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from the Parking Meter Fund to the Meter Maintenance account, the sum of \$10,655 to pay for the annual hosting and credit card processing fees: or act on anything relative thereto.

LINDA SANDERS FOR POLICE CHIEF JOHN HORVATH: I move that the Town transfer the sum of \$10,655 from the Parking Meter Fund to the Parking Meter Maintenance account to pay for parking meter collection processing.

It was moved, seconded and carried by hand vote.

ARTICLE P (13): To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant, on behalf of the Town, on such terms and conditions and for such duration as the Selectmen deem appropriate, permanent access and electric easements and temporary construction easements in, on, and under portions of the town-owned parcels of land shown on Assessors Map 11 as Parcels 21B and 22 and described in deeds recorded with the Essex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 4955, Page 42 and Book 2997, Page 268, which portions are shown more particularly on a plan entitled "Rockport Layover Facility Power Upgrade Contract No. J62CN01" prepared by Nitsch Engineering, dated June 30, 2015, and a plan entitled "Rockport Layover Facility Power Upgrade Contract No. W9CNXX" prepared by Nitsch Engineering, dated June 19, 2015, which plans are on file with the Town Clerk, said easements to be granted to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority for the aforesaid purposes, including, without limitation, the construction and maintenance of a power distribution duct bank, conduits and appurtenances, and reconstruction of a parking lot; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (majority vote)

LINDA SANDERS FOR ERIN BATTISTELLI BOARD OF SELECTMEN CHAIRPERSON: I move that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant, on behalf of the Town, on such terms and conditions and for such duration as the Selectmen deem appropriate, permanent access and electric easements and temporary construction easements in, on, and under portions of the Town-owned parcels of land shown on Assessors Map 11 as Parcels 21B and 22 and described in deeds recorded with the Essex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 4955, Page 42 and Book 2997, Page 268, which portions are shown more particularly on a plan entitled "Rockport Layover Facility Power Upgrade Contract No. J62CN01" prepared by Nitsch Engineering, dated June 30, 2015 which plans are on file with the Town Clerk, said easements to be granted to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority for the aforesaid purposes, including, without limitation, the construction and maintenance of a power distribution duct bank, conduits and appurtenances, and reconstruction of a parking lot, and, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept from the MBTA such easements, if any, that the MBTA may grant the Town on the MBTA-owned parcels of land shown on Assessors Map 11 for the purpose of accessing Evans Field.

Moved and seconded.

An amendment was made: "No easements on town property will be granted until the Board of Selectmen have secured from the MBTA an easement across the MBTA property located at Lot 21, Assessor's Map 11 giving the town access to Evans Field from the town owned section of the railroad station parking lot and authorizing the Board of Selectmen to accept said easements."

A standing vote was counted. The amendment passed 47 to 44.

Another amendment was made by Toby Arsenian: I move to add the following sentence to the amended article: Other than the temporary construction easement on Evans Field, any easement granted by the Town to the MBTA will be null and void in the event that the MBTA's train station property located at Assessor's Map 11 Lots 21 and 21E in the event that the, is owned by, is owned by any party other than a governmental agency or a non-profit organization.

Moved and seconded.

A motion was made to reconsider the first amendment to Article P which was moved and seconded.

The second amendment: Other than the temporary construction easement on Evans Field, any easements granted by the Town to the MBTA will be null and void in the event that the MBTA's train station property located at Assessor's Map 11 Lots 21 and 21E is owned by any party other than a governmental agency or a non-profit organization.

Which was previously moved and seconded, failed by hand vote.

The motion to reconsider the first amendment, which passed by three votes, requires a two-thirds vote.

We're reconsidering:

"No easements on town property will be granted until the Board of Selectmen have secured from the MBTA an easement across the MBTA property located at Lot 21, Assessor's Map 11 giving the town access to Evans Field from the town owned section of the railroad station parking lot and authorizing the Board of Selectmen to accept said easements."

The motion to reconsider passed by a standing vote of two-thirds.

The reconsidered amendment:

"No easements on town property will be granted until the Board of Selectmen have secured from the MBTA an easement across the MBTA property located at Lot 21, Assessor's Map 11 giving the town access to Evans Field from the town owned section of the railroad station parking lot and authorizing the Board of Selectmen to accept said easements."

The reconsidered amendment failed by hand vote.

The original motion of Article P was made, seconded and passed by a hand vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article A.

ARTICLE A (14): To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer, a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of previous fiscal years; or act on anything relative thereto. (9/10 vote)

LINDA SANDERS FOR MELISSA TINGLEY OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE: I move that the Town appropriate and transfer the sum of \$2,078.34 from the Tax Possessed Land Legal Fees account and the sum of \$5,925.60 from the School Choice Revolving account to pay the following sums for unpaid bills from the previous fiscal year and as listed on page 20 of the *Fall Town Meeting Voters Booklet* with the addition of the following:

(In Booklet)

- \$623.80 to Guisti, Hingston & Company
- \$1,340.13 to Medicompts, Inc.
- \$114.41 to Smith Hardware & Lumber
- \$5,925.60 to McLean Hospital
- \$243.81 to DrawingBoard Printing from the Assessors' Office Supplies Acc't
- \$432.59 to Century Bank from the Treasurer's Purchase of Services Account
- \$122.90 to FedEx from the Treasurer's Postage & Courier Expenses Account
- \$134.53 to Warner Communications from the Economic Dev Comm Expenses

It was moved, seconded and carried by a hand vote of 9/10s. A second vote was made to affirm and passed unanimously.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article B.

ARTICLE B (15): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate and transfer, a sum or sums of money to add to the appropriations made under Articles 5, 5A, 5B, 6, 6A and/or 6B of the April 4, 2015 Annual Town Meeting or to reduce appropriations made thereunder; or act on anything relative thereto (*majority vote*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR WALLY HESS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE: I move that the Town amend the votes taken under Articles 5, 5A, 5B, 6, 6A and 6B of the April 4, 2015 Annual Town Meeting by transferring the sums set forth in the *Fall Town Meeting Voters Booklet* for Article B Motion on pages 20 and 21 in the amounts and for the purposes specified therein, including the transfer of the unexpended balance of \$110,000 initially borrowed to finance the Data Center Improvements project under Article 6 of the April 5, 2014 Annual Town Meeting, that is now complete, and for which no further liability remains, the balance of \$12,975 to the Computer Equipment Capital account to pay costs associated with replacing computer network servers, in addition, two additional transfers that were not in the Voter's Booklet of \$4,200 from Town Accountant Salary to Accounting Support Specialist Wages and \$1,560 from Legal Fees to Court Ordered Long Beach Police Detail Wages.

Amount	From	To
\$ 3,600.00	Sick Leave Buyback	ConCom Clerk Wages
\$ 1,500.00	CPC Administrative Expenses	CPC Mtg Support Clerk Wages
\$ 500.00	Tax Possessed Land Legal Fees	HAC Mtg Support Clerk Wages
\$ 1,200.00	Tax Possessed Land Legal Fees	FinCom Mtg Support Clerk Wages
\$ 465.64	Tax Possessed Land Purch Svcs	Zoning Bd Mtg Support Clerk Wages
\$ 4,200.00	Town Accountant Salary	Accounting Support Specialist
\$ 1,560.00	Legal Fees	Court Ordered LB Police Detail Wages
\$ 4,000.00	CPC Undesignated Fund Balance	Finance Committee Reserve Fund
\$66,993.00	Town Accountant Salary	Accounting Purchase of Services
\$ 5,600.00	HR Assistant Wages	HR Operating Expenses
\$ 4,600.00	Group Health Insurance	DPW Parks Maintenance
\$ 2,000.00	Tax Possessed Land Legal Fees	DPW Graffiti Removal
\$12,975.25	Data Center Account	IS&T Computer Equipment Cap Acct
\$ 2,231.34	Fire Station Roof Account	IS&T Computer Equipment Cap Acct
\$ 8,755.96	Waterways Fund	Harbormasters Float Maintenance

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article H.

ARTICLE H (16): To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the unexpended funds initially borrowed to finance capital School Treads, Landings and Ramps project that is now complete, and for which no further liability remains, the unexpended balance of \$33,657 from Article 6 of the April 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, to a School Carpeting Replacement Capital account to pay costs of replacing carpeting in the schools; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Educational Services Department*) (*majority vote*).

LINDA SANDERS FOR ROB LIEBOW, SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the unexpended balance of \$68,200 initially borrowed to finance the School Treads, Landings, and Ramps project under Article 6 of the April 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, that is now complete, and for which no further liability remains, the balance of \$33,657 to a School Carpeting Replacement Capital account to pay costs of replacing carpeting in the schools.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion under Article J.

ARTICLE J (17): To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to make necessary repairs to the available funds, or borrow a sum of money to make necessary repairs to the Library Building to stop leaks; and if such funds are borrowed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said funds under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*majority vote, 2/3 if borrowed*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR PAUL SENA, DPW COMMISSIONER: I move that the Town appropriate and transfer the sum of \$20,000 from the Old Police Station Roof Account to a Library Building Repairs Capital Account to pay for necessary repairs to the Library Building.

It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Chair entertained a motion to dissolve the Fall Town Meeting. It was moved, seconded and carried by voice vote.

The Fall Town Meeting dissolved at 11:22PM.

OATHS OF OFFICE FOR 2015

Anderson	Faye	Council on Aging	7/21/15
Brosnan	Bethany	Rockport Housing Authority	5/19/15
Bosselman	Linda	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	6/3/15
Bergholtz	Peter	Board of Appeals	6/9/15
Boyd	Ian	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	6/18/15
Betts	Henry	MBTA Station Planning Advisory Committee	6/23/15
Breiter	Janet	Ad Hoc Water Committee	6/25/15
Beacham	Peter	Economic Development Committee	7/27/15
Blanchard	Charmaine	Millbrook Meadow Committee	10/15/15
Crown	Ian	Finance Committee	3/27/15
Cohen	Sharron	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	5/5/15
Cusick	Donna	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	6/4/15
Cutter	Seth	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Committee	6/23/15
Cartwright	Diane	Ad Hoc Water Committee	6/30/15
Cohen	David	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	7/9/15
Cox	James	Economic Development Committee	7/9/15
Coonley	Peggy	Beautification Committee	9/29/15
Cohen	Dr. Bruce	Board of Health	12/1/15
Campbell	John	Building Study Committee	12/21/15
Derow	Diane	Council on Aging	5/15/15
DeWeese-Boyd	Margie	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	6/18/15
Doyle	James	Board of Fire Engineers	6/22/15
Delaney	David	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Committee	6/23/15
Delaney	Carol	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Committee	7/6/15
Dagle	Kendra	Memorial Day Parade Committee	7/31/15
Dellacona	Debra	Associate Member – Board of Appeals	11/23/15
Evans	Laura	Ad Hoc Water Committee	6/26/15
Finta	Martha	Beautification Committee	7/10/15
Fulton, Jr.	John	Keeper of Thacher Island	7/14/15
Fulton	Darlene	Keeper of Thacher Island	7/14/15
Foote	Michael	Permanent Int. Police Officer	9/21/15
Good IV	Timothy	Board of Assessors	5/19/15
Galpin	Suzan	Economic Development Committee	7/10/15
Glick	Camille	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	7/24/15
Glick	Dewey	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	7/24/15
Horvath	John	Police Chief	5/19/15
Haynes	Jeannette	Keeper of Thacher Island	5/29/15
Hoffman	Rollyn	Economic Development Committee	6/17/15
Hallowell	Laura	Millbrook Meadow Committee	12/7/15
Jimenez	Sydney	Board of Health	3/5/15
Johnson	Diane	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	5/12/15
Johnson	Gary	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	5/12/15
Jaretz	Nancy	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	8/28/15
King	James	Personnel Board	6/22/15
Keating	Kirk	Board of Fire Engineers	7/6/15

Lombardo	Marcia	Millbrook Meadow Committee	7/6/15
Lovgren	Christine	Beautification Committee	8/27/15
Levine	Roger	Finance Committee	11/19/15
Levesque	Frank	Granite Pier Committee	12/4/15
Michaels	June	Finance Committee	5/11/15
Moores	Wilhelmina	Board of Selectmen	5/19/15
MaGrath	Coleen	Council on Aging	6/23/15
Marr	Lee	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Committee	6/23/15
Morris	Richard	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Committee	6/29/15
McKinnon	David	Conservation Commission	7/1/15
Morrissey	Aileen	Millbrook Meadow Committee	7/10/15
Montello	Edmund	Harbor Advisory Committee	7/21/15
Marshall	Dorothy	Town Art Committee	7/27/15
Marshall	Jill	Beautification Committee	8/17/15
Mikus	Tim	Rights of Way Committee	8/17/15
Moss	Raymond	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Committee	9/14/15
Maassen	Ruth	Poet Laureate	9/17/15
Militello	Keith	Permanent Int. Police Officer	9/21/15
Nelson	Heather	School Committee	5/6/15
Neal	Lawrence	Open Space and Recreation Committee	6/23/15
Pszeny	Liz	Intern Keeper of Thacher Island	5/15/15
Pszeny	Ray	Intern Keeper of Thacher Island	5/15/15
Porter	John	Board of Fire Engineers	6/23/15
Pillarella	Rosemary	Town Art Committee	6/24/15
Perkins	Bruce	Essex Tech School Board	12/2/15
Razdan	Lana	Trustee of Public Library	5/6/15
Reed	Bruce	DPW Commissioner	6/10/15
Razdan	Lana	Economic Development Committee	6/17/15
Richter	Elwin	Personnel Board	6/30/15
Robertson	George	MBTA Station Planning Advisory Committee	7/7/15
Rask	Eric	Granite Pier Committee	7/10/15
Rees	John	Zoning Administrator	7/15/15
Sly	Rebecca	School Committee	5/6/15
Smith	Cameron	Planning Board	5/19/15
Sena-Berger	Karen	Town Art Committee	6/26/15
Smith	Anita	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	7/9/15
Smith	Wayne	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	7/9/15
Scatterday	Theresa	Economic Development Committee	7/14/15
Saville	Randy	Building Study Committee	8/6/15
Tingley	Melissa	Finance Committee	3/27/15
Tucker	Kevin	Constable	5/5/15
Tucker	Kenneth	Constable	5/5/15
Tarr III	Frederick	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Committee	6/23/15
Tarr III	Frederick	Open Space and Recreation Committee	6/23/15
Thompson	John	Granite Pier Committee	6/23/15
Tarr III	Frederick	Millbrook Meadow Committee	7/6/15
Trumbour	Darlene	Memorial Day Parade Committee	7/7/15
Teahen	Linda	Rockport Cultural Council	11/10/15
VanDemark	Peter	Open Space and Recreation Committee	7/2/15

Wood	Joanne	Council on Aging	2/17/15
Wile	Joanne	Historical Commission	2/23/15
Wedmore	Sydney	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	5/21/15
Wilkinson	Sarah	Board of Selectmen	5/19/15
Wedmore	Suellen	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	5/21/15
Wedmore	Sydney	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Committee	7/13/15
Whelan	Leslie	Inspector of Animals	7/14/15
Whittaker	Richard	Asst. Keeper of Thacher Island	8/28/15
Wiberg	Lars-Erik	Assoc. Member of the Board of Appeals	8/28/15
Zivkovic	Mary	Beautification Committee	3/19/15
Zeman	Gail	Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Committee	7/6/15
Zeman	Gail	Memorial Day Parade Committee	7/6/15

INDEX

Accountants Report	A1 (Green Section)
Ad Hoc Committee on Town Water Supply.....	26
Ambulance Department Report	28
Animal Inspector	71
Appointments.....	11
Beautification Committee.....	29
Board of Assessors Report	32
Board of Health Report.....	30
Board of Selectmen Report.....	5
Board of Selectmen Licenses Granted.....	10
Capital Improvements Planning Committee.....	35
Conservation Commission Report.....	37
Council on Aging Report.....	39
Cover Picture Story	Inside Front Cover
DPW-Board of Commissioners	46
DPW-Directors Report	43
Dog Officer.....	48
Economic Development Committee.....	49
Elected Officers-Terms, Addresses and Telephone Numbers	1
Finance Committee Report.....	51
Fire Department Report	53
Forest Fire Department Report	57
Friends of Scout Hall Committee Report	58
Granite Pier Committee	60
Harbor Advisory Committee	62
Harbor Department.....	63
Human Resources Department	66
Inspectional Services Report	72
IT Systems and Technologies.....	68
Key Telephone Numbers	3
Library Reports.....	99
List of Cases	22
Millbrook Meadow Committee Report	73
Open Space and Recreation Committee	78
Parking Clerk Report	80
Personnel Board Report.....	81
Planning Board Report	83
Police Department Report	86
Recreation Department.....	95
Representatives of Rockport, Federal and State Government	2
Rights of Way Committee Report	97

Rockport Almanac 4

Rockport Community House 98

School Report S1 (Beige Section)

Thacher and Straitsmouth Islands Town Committee Report..... 104

Town Administrator’s Report..... 16

Town Art Committee..... 106

Town Clerk Report B1 (Yellow Section)

Town Counsel Report..... 19

Treasurer/Collector TC1 (Blue Section)

Voter Information Inside Back Cover

2016 VOTER INFORMATION FOR ROCKPORT

REGISTER TO VOTE: Who How When Where

- **IF** you are a citizen of the United States
- **IF** you will be 18 on or before the day of the election.
- **IF** you are a resident of Rockport on the 20th day prior to an election.

REGISTER at the Town Clerk's office Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8 AM to 4 PM, Tuesday 8 AM to 6 PM and Friday 8 AM to 1 PM. There are special voter registration sessions before each election. You may also register by mail or at outside agencies. Ask the Town Clerk about this procedure.

ELECTION CALENDAR:

Annual Town Meeting – Saturday, April 2, 2016

Annual Town Election – Tuesday, May 3, 2016

Special Fall Town Meeting – Monday, September 12, 2016

POLLING PLACES:

- Precinct 1, Rockport Community House, 58 Broadway
- Precinct 2, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 24 Broadway
- Precinct 3, Rockport Community House, 58 Broadway

ABSENTEE BALLOT:

You are entitled to an absentee ballot ***if*** you are a registered voter ***and will be away*** on Election Day, or, if by reason of physical disability or for religious reasons, will not be able to cast your vote in person at the polling place.

TO OBTAIN AN ABSENTEE BALLOT:

Write, call or appear at the Town Clerk's office for an application form for an absentee ballot. Any written communication with your name, registration address and address where you will be to receive the ballot is acceptable. All applications must be received by noon on the day before the election. Allow enough time for your ballot to be sent and arrive back by closing of the polls, 8 PM, on Election Day. If you will be absent from the town and have no address where your ballot may be reasonably returned, you may vote prior to the election in the Town Clerk's office. To vote your absentee ballot, read all instructions carefully.

ENROLLMENT IN POLITICAL PARTIES:

All town elections are non-partisan. In Primaries you are only given the ballot of the political party in which you are enrolled. If unenrolled, you may receive the party ballot of your choice.

RESIDENTS SEVENTEEN (17) YEARS OF AGE:

If you will be **18** years old ***on or before*** Election Day but after close of the registration period, you are still ***eligible to register and vote***. If there are any questions concerning this matter, please call the Town Clerk's office for clarification - (978) 546-6894.



Piano Player at the Shalin Liu Performance Center